

Will YOU “Remember in November”?

The real power of any grass roots organization comes from their ability to mobilize voters. The more voters that an organization can mobilize during election season, the more influence the organization has with politicians during the legislative season. The real power of GrassRoots GunRights comes from YOU - the voter during election season and the concerned constituent during legislative season.

If an organization such as GrassRoots GunRights can not mobilize voters during election season, then the politicians can safely ignore the organization's leaders and the organization's legislative efforts during the legislative season. If an organization can mobilize voters to oppose or support a politician during election season, then the politician has to decide whether he or she wants to fight with or reap the benefit of the politician's opposition or support of the organization's legislative efforts during the legislative season. So, the success or failure of future GrassRoots GunRights legislative efforts depend upon YOU and how YOU VOTE on November 2!

The time has come for YOU to show politicians that YOU - GrassRoots GunRights members - will either “Remember in November” or not. YOU can show politicians that they can safely oppose our Second Amendment rights, or YOU can show politicians that they will pay a price for trying to enslave us by infringing

upon our Constitutionally guaranteed rights. The choice is yours.

GrassRoots GunRights will not try to tell you how to vote (we would lose our tax exempt status if we did). But, GrassRoots GunRights will tell you who the heroes and zeroes in the General Assembly and other South Carolina government offices have been for the last four years. Then, YOU decide who YOU think should be rewarded or punished for what they have done either for you or against you.

The U.S. Senate race:

The two candidates are Rep. Jim DeMint and Inez Tenenbaum. Rep. Jim DeMint has a track record in the U.S. House of Representatives proving that he is a pro gun candidate. Unfortunately, Inez Tenenbaum has no voting record to examine. But, that does not mean we must simply take her at her word that she supports the Second Amendment. That would be a huge mistake.

GrassRoots GunRights worked hard to get concealed weapon permit (CWP) and gun law reforms passed during the 2001-2002 legislative session. But unfortunately, we did not get everything we wanted. We were told by at least one legislator that Inez Tenenbaum used her influence to kill a very important proposed reform.

Imagine you are a parent at work who



gets a call from the school telling you that your child is sick and you need to take your child home or to the doctor. Existing SC law makes it a felony for you to drive onto school property to pick up your child while carrying your defensive sidearm, even if you have a CWP. You would have to first dispose of your defensive sidearm before going to the school. This is ridiculous.

It is not parents with CWPs that shoot children at schools, it is deranged people looking for attention who do so. Punishing good parents with CWPs for possessing a defensive sidearm on school property does NOT stop deranged lunatics with murder in mind from shooting our children. In fact, prohibiting good parents with CWPs from possessing defensive sidearms on school property only enables the deranged lunatics to be more successful when they do start shooting our children.

The federal “Gun Free School Zone” law recognizes this fact and allows CWP holders in South Carolina to carry defensive sidearms on school property and even into schools. It is South Carolina law that prohibits CWP holders from doing so. Interestingly, the best available research shows that virtually all mass public shootings now occur only where CWP holders are prohibited from possessing their defensive sidearms. That is why we have shootings at schools - the bad guys can safely get away with their evil deeds without fear of being stopped until after they have killed and injured many innocent people. Yet, even though there are no known cases of a CWP holder shooting children or improperly discharging a firearm at a school, SC law still creates safe havens for those who would want to kill our children. This is wrong.

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Please make a note that our mailing address has changed. Our new address is:

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President’s Message



Ed Kelleher

Do your duty!
Preparation Time
Begins Now!

It's been a short, not so hot summer, yet I'm still glad for the cooler weather - and a little respite. Even with the end of the legislative session in June, your GrassRoots leadership has still been busy --- but mostly with family and work matters; trying to get caught up. But it's time to get GrassRoots caught up too, so here's another edition of *The Defender* as we try and get GrassRoots in shape for next year. We're proud of *The Defender* newspaper we put out and hope you are too - because **you** make it possible! I think *The Defender* is the only paper in the state to have published a picture of Reb Sutherland, Libertarian candidate for the US Senate. I hope you'll check her out before voting this year.

Yes, it's election time, with the media (but not *The Defender* of course) lying to beat the band. But, I've gotten some good and encouraging reports from GrassRoots members and other supporters across the state who aren't being fooled. On the DeMint - Tenenbaum debate, Ralph Baker in Sumter had this to say:

During the debate this evening the question was - do you favor the assault weapons ban? Tenenbaum responded that she stood with the police and was for it. DeMint said that he was not and stated that he was in favor of his neighbors being armed and able to use firearms to defend themselves to enhance security. That he would never restrict citizen's right to arms. That reaffirms that DeMint is my choice!

Of course she would stand with the police officers - she wants to take the guns from the rest of us and leave us defenseless. And, on the Bush - Kerry debate, this from Bruce Larson in Greenville:

My two cents worth; Kerry was well rehearsed, scripted, & coached. Bush was speaking from the heart, he was struggling over the fact that

Americans had lost their lives because of his resolve in our war on terrorism. And he accepted that responsibility. I am voting for Bush!

Both comments are on point. Both deal with individuals meeting responsibilities, duties if you will, head on. They bring to mind a thought I've had from time to time. I think there's a special gene that some people have, and that other people lack. Something that makes people willing to put aside their own interests and sacrifice in order to help others and the society they're a part of. Peace officers, firemen, EMT's have it. Electric company and co-op people working the lines after a hurricane have it, as do many preachers, doctors, and nurses. And of course our men and women in the armed forces have it in spades: sacrificing daily; fighting over there so we don't have to fight here.

To me, and I'm sure to many of you though, this isn't really such an uncommon or remarkable thing. We could add a lot of people to that list. Yet around us people wail and moan (the lying media again) that the “greatest generation” has passed and where are the good people today? Nonsense, they're still here and they are all around us. I think 9/11 and United Airlines flight 93 showed that. Out of only 40 or so passengers quite a few rose to do their duty. And I think that's what I'm getting at - people recognizing their responsibilities and doing their duty. Duty: the word that Robert E. Lee called the most sublime word in our language. This excerpt from an article “Democrat Cowards Doomed for Comeuppance” by Joan Nagy in NewsMax Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2002 illustrates the point:

From the back of the plane a voice is heard saying: "Are you guys ready? Let's roll." Charging down the isle, full throttle, is Todd Beamer, catapulting a stainless-steel beverage cart into a high-speed battering ram. He is followed by several other businessmen, followed by a flight attendant who was a former police officer, followed by a petite attendant carrying a coffee pot filled with boiling water, followed by a rugby player, who is followed by more civilian patriots.

One by one, single file, they storm down the aisle intent on saving themselves and other innocent Americans. They are not afflicted with moral confusion like our Democratic politicians. These Americans are not content to wring

their hands and makes excuses for inaction while thousands of Americans die horrible deaths. They did what had to be done and saved hundreds of American lives.

Today, there is a large group of people doing that same thing - protecting others on their own tick. But they're unsung. They aren't recognized as heroes. In fact they're often publicly ridiculed, discriminated against and treated as second class citizens. Yet they carry on, still serving and willing to serve at considerable personal expense in time, money and liability.

I'm one of them, and I bet you are too if you're reading this. I'm talking about Concealed Weapon Permit (CWP) holders and other citizens that have chosen to carry firearms on a daily basis. We know the cost of doing this, the vigilance necessary and the great weight of liability constantly hanging over us. Just ask Jason Dickey about the cost. Yet despite all that we know that indeed “More Guns, Less Crime” and society as a whole and many individuals benefit enormously when good citizens like us choose to go armed. So we do our duty - despite the cost. I hope you'll do your duty as well at the ballot box this November 2. And if you think, “There ought to be a better way!” then read “The Curious Republic of Gondour” by Mark Twain printed here on page 3, a favorite of mine. I'm proud to know and be a part of you all.

Do you have letters, photos or articles you would like to share with other GrassRoots members?

Send them to skip13@sc.rr.com or mail them to Skip Cunningham
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Deadline for our next issue, February 1st.

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The GrassRoots South Carolina newspaper, *The Defender*, is distributed quarterly to the membership of GrassRoots. Submissions can be sent by mail to Editor, c/o GrassRoots South Carolina, PO Box 2446, Lexington, SC 29071, 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 GrassRoots South Carolina, Inc.

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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.

THE CURIOUS REPUBLIC OF GONDOUR

Mark Twain

As soon as I had learned to speak the language a little, I became greatly interested in the people and the system of government.

I found that the nation had at first tried universal suffrage pure and simple, but had thrown that form aside because the result was not satisfactory. It had seemed to deliver all power into the hands of the ignorant and non-tax-paying classes; and of a necessity the responsible offices were filled from these classes also.

A remedy was sought. The people believed they had found it; not in the destruction of universal suffrage, but in the enlargement of it. It was an odd idea, and ingenious. You must understand, the constitution gave every man a vote; therefore that vote was a vested right, and could not be taken away. But the constitution did not say that certain individuals might not be given two votes, or ten! So an amendatory clause was inserted in a quiet way; a clause which authorized the enlargement of the suffrage in certain cases to be specified by statute. To offer to "limit" the suffrage might have made instant trouble; the offer to "enlarge" it had a pleasant aspect. But of course the newspapers soon began to suspect; and then out they came! It was found, however, that for once--and for the first time in the history of the republic-- property, character, and intellect were able to wield a political influence; for once, money, virtue, and intelligence took a vital and a united interest in a political question; for once these powers went to the "primaries" in strong force; for once the best men in the nation were put forward as candidates for that parliament whose business it should be to enlarge the suffrage. The weightiest half of the press quickly joined forces with the new movement, and left the other half to rail about the proposed "destruction of the liberties" of the bottom layer of society, the hitherto governing class of the community.

The victory was complete. The new law was framed and passed. Under it every citizen, howsoever poor or ignorant, possessed one vote, so universal suffrage still reigned; but if a man possessed a good common-school education and no money, he had two votes; a high-school education gave him four; if he had property like wise, to the value of three thousand 'sacos,' he wielded one more vote; for every fifty thousand 'sacos' a man added to his property, he was entitled to another vote; a university education entitled a man to nine votes, even though he owned no property. Therefore, learning being more prevalent and more easily acquired than riches, educated men became a wholesome check upon wealthy men, since they could out-vote them. Learning goes usually with uprightness, broad views, and humanity; so the learned voters, pos-

sessing the balance of power, became the vigilant and efficient protectors of the great lower rank of society.

And now a curious thing developed itself--a sort of emulation, whose object was voting power! Whereas formerly a man was honored only according to the amount of money he possessed, his grandeur was measured now by the number of votes he wielded. A man with only one vote was conspicuously respectful to his neighbor who possessed three. And if he was a man above the commonplace, he was as conspicuously energetic in his determination to acquire three for himself. This spirit of emulation invaded all ranks. Votes based upon capital were commonly called "mortal" votes, because they could be lost; those based upon learning were called "immortal," because they were permanent, and because of their customarily imperishable character they were naturally more valued than the other sort. I say "customarily" for the reason that these votes were not absolutely imperishable, since insanity could suspend them.

Under this system, gambling and speculation almost ceased in the republic. A man honoured as the possessor of great voting power could not afford to risk the loss of it upon a doubtful chance.

It was curious to observe the manners and customs which the enlargement plan produced. Walking the street with a friend one day he delivered a careless bow to a passer-by, and then remarked that that person possessed only one vote and would probably never earn another; he was more respectful to the next acquaintance he met; he explained that this salute was a four-vote bow. I tried to "average" the importance of the people he accosted after that, by the nature of his bows, but my success was only partial, because of the somewhat greater homage paid to the immortals than to the mortals. My friend explained. He said there was no law to regulate this thing, except that most powerful of all laws, custom. Custom had created these varying bows, and in time they had become easy and natural. At this moment he delivered himself of a very profound salute, and then said, "Now there's a man who began life as a shoemaker's apprentice, and without education; now he swings twenty-two mortal votes and two immortal ones; he expects to pass a high-school examination this year and climb a couple of votes higher among the immortals; mighty valuable citizen."

By and by my friend met a venerable personage, and not only made him a most elaborate bow, but also took off his hat. I took off mine, too, with a mysterious awe. I was beginning to be infected.

"What grandee is that?"

"That is our most illustrious

astronomer. He hasn't any money, but is fearfully learned. Nine immortals is his political weight! He would swing a hundred and fifty votes if our system were perfect."

"Is there any altitude of mere moneyed grandeur that you take off your hat to?"

"No. Nine immortal votes is the only power we uncover for that is, in civil life. Very great officials receive that mark of homage, of course."

It was common to hear people admiringly mention men who had begun life on the lower levels and in time achieved great voting-power. It was also common to hear youths planning a future of ever so many votes for themselves. I heard shrewd mammas speak of certain young men as good "catches" because they possessed such-and-such a number of votes. I knew of more than one case where an heiress was married to a youngster who had but one vote; the argument being that he was gifted with such excellent parts that in time he would acquire a good voting strength, and perhaps in the long run be able to outvote his wife, if he had luck.

Competitive examinations were the rule and in all official grades. I remarked that the questions asked the candidates were wild, intricate, and often required a sort of knowledge not needed in the office sought.

"Can a fool or an ignoramus answer them?" asked the person I was talking with.

"Certainly not."

"Well, you will not find any fools or ignoramuses among our officials." I felt rather cornered, but made shift to say:

"But these questions cover a good deal more ground than is necessary."

"No matter; if candidates can answer these it is tolerably fair evidence that they can answer nearly any other question you choose to ask them."

There were some things in Gondour which one could not shut his eyes to. One was, that ignorance and incompetence had no place in the government. Brains and property managed the state. A candidate for office must have marked ability, education, and high character, or he stood no sort of chance of election. If a hod-carrier possessed these, he could succeed; but the mere fact that he was a hod-carrier could not elect him, as in previous times.

It was now a very great honour to be in the parliament or in office; under the old system such distinction had only brought suspicion upon a man and made him a helpless mark for newspaper contempt and scurrility. Officials did not need to steal now, their salaries being vast in comparison with the pittances paid in the days when parliaments were created by hod-carriers, who viewed official salaries from a hod-carrying point of

view and compelled that view to be respected by their obsequious servants. Justice was wisely and rigidly administered; for a judge, after once reaching his place through the specified line of promotions, was a permanency during good behaviour. He was not obliged to modify his judgments according to the effect they might have upon the temper of a reigning political party.

The country was mainly governed by a ministry which went out with the administration that created it. This was also the case with the chiefs of the great departments. Minor officials ascended to their several positions through well-earned promotions, and not by a jump from gin-mills or the needy families and friends of members of parliament. Good behaviour measured their terms of office.

The head of the governments the Grand Caliph, was elected for a term of twenty years. I questioned the wisdom of this. I was answered that he could do no harm, since the ministry and the parliament governed the land, and he was liable to impeachment for misconduct. This great office had twice been ably filled by women, women as aptly fitted for it as some of the sceptred queens of history. Members of the cabinet, under many administrations, had been women.

I found that the pardoning power was lodged in a court of pardons, consisting of several great judges. Under the old regime, this important power was vested in a single official, and he usually took care to have a general jail delivery in time for the next election.

I inquired about public schools. There were plenty of them, and of free colleges too. I inquired about compulsory education. This was received with a smile, and the remark:

"When a man's child is able to make himself powerful and honoured according to the amount of education he acquires, don't you suppose that that parent will apply the compulsion himself? Our free schools and free colleges require no law to fill them."

There was a loving pride of country about this person's way of speaking which annoyed me. I had long been unused to the sound of it in my own. The Gondour national airs were forever dinning in my ears; therefore I was glad to leave that country and come back to my dear native land, where one never hears that sort of music.





Skip Cunningham

Afghans, Americans and Other Things

The stories coming out of Afghanistan as this is being written are just amazing. People outside in snow, cold and rain for over 8 hours just waiting for the doors to open. Women in line with the men. Why?? TO VOTE!! To have a say in who will lead them in governing their country!! These people recognize what a gift has been given to them. Elections are not without their problems (think Florida ,2000). No wonder terrorists are ramping up. No tyranny wants the people free to choose.

I can't imagine that anyone reading this won't go to the polls on November 2. Yet many Americans won't. They'll cite a host of reasons (excuses, really). Maybe this election is your chance to encourage someone who is thinking of staying on the sidelines to get into the game. Remind them of why we vote...Of those around the world who can't...Of those who are voting for the first time...Of what freedom really means...Of the price people pay for freedom. VOTE---and take someone to the polls with you.

And “Remember in November” to support our friends and to replace those who refuse to support our rights. This is the ultimate of opportunities. Read, or re-read, the front-page article, and pass it on to other voters.

A few other things to look for in this issue :

- Ben Davis' excellent article (see p. 5) on the facts behind the ban on so-called “assault” weapons. It has now died. It was always a joke. It did nothing

to fight crime. Maybe an understanding of the facts can trump the irrational arguments of the gun grabbers.

- As mentioned on p 4, there is a survey coming by year's end. We need your input. Watch for it. Fill it out. Return it.
- Gun Stores/Dealers/Ranges We'd like to feature some of you in each edition next year. We don't have all the details worked out. It's a work-in-progress. Give us your ideas.
- While elections and voting are fresh in your mind, see the article on page 7 about the Legislative Tactics Seminar. Consider hosting one. SOON!!! Call or e-mail if you have questions. We need to PLAY TO WIN in the legislature. The LTS will arm you to win.
- We want your letters and e-mails about your views and opinions on gun-related issues. We want to print them (or excerpts from them). We learn to think by listening to each others' ideas. Share yours.
- Members should also be aware (as many are) that Senator Jake Knotts, in addition to standing up for us in the legislature, on his own time offers free CWP classes to the public. How's that for commitment to CWP holders and GrassRoots????

Oh...did I mention??? VOTE on November 2 !!!!!

My Vote for the Next GrassRoots Legislative Push

by Robert D. Butler, J.D., Research by Dr. Ben Davis

(Note: It's sometimes amazing how closely related some issues are to other. The assault weapons ban - now expired-and restaurant carry are good examples. They are related in their uselessness, their inability to prevent crime, their failure to recognize that CWP holders are the good guys, and their support by people who have no concern for Constitutional Rights.

This article appeared in *The Defender* a while back. A new legislative session will open before you get the next issue. This would be a good thing to re-read and to reconsider in a broader perspective. There will be a survey coming soon. It is mentioned a couple of other times in this edition. Please tell us what agenda items are important to you.)

Did you know it was legal for South Carolina CWP holders to carry into nice restaurants prior to 1996? Probably not, since there were no drunken shootouts for the mass media to report.

So, why the change in 1996 if there were no problems with drunken shootouts before 1996? Passage of “The Law Abiding Citizen's Self Defense Act of 1996” allowed ordinary people the privilege of carrying a concealed weapon. Prior to 1996, only the politically connected people could do so. Our politicians were afraid ordinary people, the same ordinary people who vote for these very politicians, were somehow inferior to politically connected people. So, the politicians put a lot of new restrictions on where ordinary people with CWPs could carry.

The current official interpretation of the law says South Carolina CWP holders can NOT carry into nice restaurants. The anti gun rights bigots claimed passage of a CWP law for ordinary people would lead to “blood running in the streets” and “shootouts over minor fender benders.” The bigots also claimed allowing ordinary people with CWPs to carry into nice restaurants would lead to drunk

en shootouts over poor food and bad service. Time has proven these anti gun bigots were wrong about ordinary people causing shootouts over fender benders and blood running in the streets. The bigots were also wrong about ordinary people with CWPs in nice restaurants, but we have to rely upon the facts from other states to prove it.

Thirty (30) of the fifty (50) states allow CWP holders to carry into nice restaurants, and consume alcoholic beverages too. These thirty states include over 70% of the population of the United States.

Since over 70% of the people in America live safely and peacefully under laws allowing CWP carry into nice restaurants, what is wrong with the people of South Carolina that justifies denying us the same right?

Why do our South Carolina politicians think we are genetically and/or morally inferior to the people in the rest of the country? Why should we vote for a politician who thinks so poorly of us?

If CWP holders were involved in drunken shootouts at nice restaurants, the mass media would let us all know about it. The fact is CWP holders DO NOT start drunkenly shooting people over bad food or bad service.

The facts prove prohibiting good people from carrying into nice restaurants DOES NOT make things safer. But, there is evidence such prohibitions do make things more dangerous. There have been reports of people being robbed and shot while going to or from nice restaurants.

When you go out to eat at a nice restaurant it is usually dark, and you must have money to pay the bill. These are exactly the things criminals are looking for - disarmed victims with money in the dark. Unfortunately, the politicians say you must disarm and make yourself and your family vulnerable before you go to a nice restaurant. This is not reasonable!

GrassRoots leadership has drafted legislation to allow law abiding citizens to defend themselves and their families when they go out to nice restaurants. Is this issue important to you? If so, let GrassRoots leaders know when you return your survey.

And the Survey Says... Well...YOU Tell US!!!!

The useless-never-did-anything one gun per month limitation is history.

H 3130--a gun grabbing attempt masquerading as a criminal domestic violence bill-was killed. (See the article on page 14).

As reported in the last issue of *The Defender*, H 3482 was passed and signed, putting much needed common-sense reforms into law. (See the front-page article in the September issue.)

These things happened because of the support of GrassRoots members from around the state. GrassRoots leadership, in taking action for and against these various bills, was responding to the needs and wants of you, our membership. An organization such as ours works ONLY when we all pull together.

With that in mind, by year’s end, we plan to send out a survey to you, and to all CWP holders in South Carolina. This is not a solicitation for funds disguised as a “survey”, as you probably have seen from certain “national” type organizations. **This is a genuine appeal asking, not for money, but for your thoughtful input.**

GrassRoots leadership truly does want to know what you think are the issues we should be pursuing when the next legislative session opens in January, 2005. We have our ideas, of course. We also know that we can't get to everything, but we want to begin to prioritize our actions with input from you. We'll send out an e-mail alert when the survey is ready to be mailed to give you a “heads-up”. For now, we want you to be aware it's coming. And that it's important. And that we want you to be thinking about it.

Thanks to all who helped us have a productive year.

Will YOU “Remember in November”?

Continued from page 1

GrassRoots GunRights wanted to amend existing SC law to allow CWP holders to possess their defensive sidearms on school property just as federal law allows. But, this proposed reform was opposed by school administrators and poll following politicians. GrassRoots GunRights then tried to compromise by amending our bill to only allow parents with a CWP to possess their defensive sidearm and only while in their attended vehicle. This would have allowed parents who have a CWP to at least drop off or pick up their children from school without having to leave their defensive sidearm at home. Yet, even this reasonable reform was opposed by Inez Tenenbaum.

So, you decide - who do you want making the laws in Washington, D.C. - Rep. Jim DeMint who has proven himself a friend of gun owners, or Inez Tenenbaum who has proven that she can not see a difference between the good guys and the bad guys and would rather that your children be sacrificial lambs on the altar of political correctness?

SC Senate races:

GrassRoots GunRights successfully pushed pro gun legislation through the General Assembly and into law both in the 2001-2002 and 2003-2004 legislative sessions. So, which Senators did the most to help us? And, who tried to hurt us?

Senator Glenn Reese is a real hero because he was the primary sponsor of the GrassRoots GunRights proposed S. 261 in 2001-2002. In fact, Sen. Reese introduced the GrassRoots proposed reforms before GrassRoots even had a chance to ask him. Sen. Reese saw the GrassRoots proposed reforms in the House and then introduced them into the Senate. Later, GrassRoots GunRights leaders talked with Senators Verdin, Bauer, and Grooms and they added their names as sponsors of this bill, too. Senators Verdin, Bauer, and Grooms are also heroes because they had the guts to put their names on the GrassRoots bill as co-sponsors. The more co-sponsors a bill has, the better its chances of getting passed.

To get a pro gun bill turned into law, it takes more than just sponsors - it requires having elected representatives who will speak out in favor of the bill in subcommittee, full committee, and on the floor of the General Assembly. We need legislators who will confront the anti gun forces and push for passage of the bill.

Senator Greg Gregory was particularly helpful while he was the chair of

the subcommittee that held hearings on S. 261. Sen. Gregory is a hero for the many times he spoke out in favor of ALL GrassRoots proposed legislation over the last four years. Sen. Larry Martin was also very helpful in getting S. 261 through the legislative maze, and also deserves our thanks for the many times he spoke out in favor of all GrassRoots proposed legislation over the last four years. In fact, it was Sen. Martin who made the motion to put H. 3010 on the special order calendar (and Sen. Ford opposed it).

Unfortunately, S. 261 was killed by Inez Tenenbaum and the media attention that focused on the school provisions mentioned above. Those long time GrassRoots members will remember that Sen. Brad Hutto helped kill S. 261 because he said that NRA leadership asked him to do so. Other Senators confirmed what Sen. Hutto said, but did not want to be publicly named. While the NRA leadership tried to deny it, Sen. Hutto never backed down from what he said and the known facts all support his statements. Sen. Nikki Setzler provided GrassRoots with a photocopy of the NRA's subsequent letter stating that the NRA was only NEUTRAL on a pro gun bill!

Thankfully, H. 3010 - the House version of S. 261 - was enacted into law. Senator Jake Knotts had the honor of being able to introduce H. 3010 into the House and vote to pass it, then get elected to the Senate and vote to pass it again. A VERY SPECIAL thanks is due Sen. Knotts for his efforts on behalf of gun owners. Senator Hawkins deserves a mention for his help in getting this bill passed. Senators Glover and Jackson tried to add poison pill amendments to this bill, but their amendments were beaten down.

Senators Danny Verdin, John Kuhn, and Glenn Reese were the primary sponsors of S. 301, the Senate version of GrassRoots GunRights proposed legislative agenda in 2003-2004. Please note that Senators Danny Verdin and Glenn Reese were sponsors of ALL GrassRoots proposed legislative efforts over the last four years. Once again, the Senate version of the GrassRoots GunRights proposed legislation did not get passed, but the House version (H. 3482) did. Senator Larry Martin once again was very helpful and spoke out in favor of our bill.

In a strange turn of events (strange because Sen. Glenn McConnell had previously supported GrassRoots proposed legislation), it appeared that Senator Glenn McConnell used procedural maneuvers to try to kill the GrassRoots GunRights proposed legislation. Sen. McConnell delayed appointing a subcommittee to have hearings on H. 3482 for almost two months! Then, it took the subcommittee almost another month to hold a hearing. This three month delay let

Sen. Brad Hutto (yes, the same Sen. Brad Hutto who helped kill S. 261 in the prior legislative session) make an amendment without GrassRoots having time to study it and propose an alternative. We needed the time because the amendment was bad for some gun owners. If Sen. McConnell had not unreasonably delayed appointing a subcommittee, then we would have had time to try to fight the bad amendment by Sen. Brad Hutto and force our bill onto the special order calendar. But, because of Sen. McConnell's delay, we were forced to either accept the amendment or watch our bill die because there was no time left in the legislative session to fight it.

Interestingly, after GrassRoots leaders had personal conversations with Senators Robert Ford and Darrell Jackson, they both agreed not to place a minority report on H. 3482. If they had done so, then it would have been the kiss of death for the GrassRoots proposed legislation because Sen. McConnell's delay in appointing a subcommittee would not have allowed GrassRoots members time to contact their elected representatives in an effort to force consideration of H. 3482 through placement on the special order calendar. Senators Ford and Jackson were responsible for talking to Senators Maggie Glover and Ralph Anderson and convincing them not to place H. 3482 on the contested calendar, which would have killed our bill. We thank them for that.

SC House races:

Two special people stand out for being the primary sponsors of the GrassRoots GunRights proposed legislative efforts on H. 3010 in 2001-2002 and on H. 3482 in 2003-2004 - Sen. Jake Knotts (who introduced H. 3010 when he was in the House and voted to pass it again after he was elected to the Senate in a special election) and Rep. Kenny Bingham (who introduced H. 3482).

But, a bill does not become law without a lot of help from many different people. The most important politicians are those who introduce legislation because without first being introduced, there can be no co-sponsors or other supporters. The next most important politicians are those who sign on as co-sponsors because they at least have the guts to let the world know where they stand. Bills with the most co-sponsors usually get the most attention and are most likely to get passed.

Here is a list of the co-sponsors of H. 3010: Representatives Knotts, Sandifer, Davenport, J. Young, Robinson, Huggins, Bingham, Rodgers, Delleney, Rice, Sharpe, Simrill, G.M. Smith, Leach, Lucas, Trotter, White, Bowers, Taylor, Klauber, Vaughn, A. Young, Rhoad, Meacham-Richardson, Hayes, Stuart, Cato, Kirsh, Tripp, Snow, Campsen,

Scarborough, Ott, Hinson, Loftis, Barfield, Talley, Koon, D.C. Smith, Whatley and D. Owens.

Here is a list of the co-sponsors of H. 3482: Representatives Bingham, Trotter, M.A. Pitts, Umphlett, Taylor, E.H. Pitts, Simrill, Huggins, Owens, Bailey, Hinson, Rice, Cato, Young, Hagood, Loftis, Ceips, Toole, Altman, White, G.R. Smith, Barfield, Chellis, Clemmons, Cooper, Duncan, Merrill, Scarborough, Ott and Quinn.

Senator Danny Verdin has been especially helpful in protecting your rights. When the SC Homeland Security bill was first being considered during the 2001-2002 session, it included provisions to allow the confiscation of guns and it gave the government the power to force you to provide human tissue samples against your will. That's right - if the government wanted a piece of your liver, they could force you to undergo a surgical procedure to give them a piece of your body against your will. No wonder they also wanted to have the power to confiscate your guns, too! Sen. Danny Verdin led the fight to get these provisions deleted from the bill.

Senator Jake Knotts has also been especially helpful in protecting your rights. The House passed a bill (H. 3130) during the 2003-2004 session that would allow the government to confiscate a person's guns for committing a misdemeanor or for mere allegations that a person might commit a crime sometime in the unknown future. But, since this was being done in the name of protecting women from criminal domestic violence, politicians were afraid to oppose it.

Initially, Sen. Jake Knotts was the only Senator opposing this “politically correct” bill because Sen. Jake Knotts is not afraid of being labeled “politically incorrect.” Sen. Knotts knew that this bill was going to become law unless there was a huge public outcry from gun owners. So, Sen. Jake Knotts called on GrassRoots leaders to immediately mobilize GrassRoots members during the last two days of the legislative session to help round up support to kill this horrible bill.

GrassRoots sent out a “GrassRoots Alert” via e-mail. You responded in overwhelming fashion and Sen. Jake Knotts suddenly had allies in the Senate in the ultimately successful fight to kill H. 3130.

Now you know who supported your rights during the legislative season, and who some of our enemies were. So, what will you do about it? You should let each of these elected representatives who represent YOU know how YOU feel about what they have done for or against YOUR rights. The voting booth is a good place to tell them.



HOW BAD LAWS GET PASSED HOW VIGILANCE PAYS GRASSROOTS HELPS DEFEAT GUN GRABBERS

The saga of H3130 can have any number of headlines, all of which are appropriate. In the November 2003 Defender we published an article, Watch Out South Carolina! It was about a man in North Carolina who was going through a typical divorce and child custody dispute. The judge ruled that, although he had done nothing wrong, and either household was suitable for the children, his wife would get custody of the children. The judge also ruled the man could not possess any firearms until his children were 18! Prior to that, in the way these things usually work, the man had been served with a restraining order. No findings of danger or threats or prior history of abuse -- just routine, as it is in many (or most) divorce and custody proceedings. But then the sheriff came and took all the man's guns from his gun safe! North Carolina had recently passed a law allowing this -- all nice and legal.

Well folks, that same law was attempted to be put on the books here in South Carolina as H.3130! It was supposed to be about Criminal Domestic Violence (CDV) but in reality it was just plain old gun control. GrassRoots had been following the bill. We reported on it, and other pending gun legislation in previous editions of The Defender. GrassRoots president Ed Kelleher was interviewed by Kara Gormley of WIS TV in Columbia and spoke convincingly against H.3130. It was pretty much dead and not going anywhere.

Then, in late May, right before the close of the legislative session, H.3130 started to move again. GrassRoots was watching and again Ed Kelleher spoke on TV against it. We sent a fax to key Senators telling them the truth about H.3130. The Senate was busy, with a long way to go and a short time to get there. H.3130 looked dead.

Then the gun grabbers tried to sneak H.3130 in under the radar screen. Fortunately, Sen. Jake Knotts was watching and put his name on the bill. That stopped it, temporarily at least. It gave GrassRoots time to rally the troops and get other legislators on board to help Jake kill the bill. We sent an e-mail alert out to members on the e-mail list (see page 15). GrassRoots folks spent hours at the state house talking to legislators and enlisting their help in getting H.3130 stopped.

It worked. The legislature ended and H.3130 didn't get passed.

Some Lessons For All Of Us

What can we, the membership of GrassRoots, take from this and learn and remember? Here are just a few thoughts. Your ideas are most welcome !!!

1) We as a group can't ever sleep. We need to watch legislation (even seemingly dead legislation) as long as the legislature is in session. Things can turn

- on a dime.
- 2) We---ALL of us--- must watch out for each other. One or two of us just might miss movement on a bill. ANYONE who hears or suspects anything must contact Ed Kelleher, Rob Butler or Skip Cunningham. Don't assume someone else caught it. Double taps (or multiple hits) are OK.
- 3) We are fortunate to have supporters in the legislature. Jake Knotts caught the movement and blocked it. He bought us the time we needed. We need to thank and support our friends.
- 4) When GrassRoots leadership needs to put out a call to action, we need to be able to reach you . Sounds pretty basic, huh??? Sometimes we need to move NOW !!! Do we have a way to contact you NOW ???? Please keep your membership information current. Be sure we have your e-mail address. Double check to be sure we have it correct. Do we have a working phone number?? Mailing address???? Simple stuff to be sure, but we count on you to tell us (see article on page 9 - Whose Sending Those Emails?).
- 5) When GrassRoots leadership puts out a call to action, we need you---ALL OF YOU--- to do just that ---TAKE ACTION !!!!!!! We try to spell out what we need and when. If we create any confusion, please ask us. When Jake Knotts held up H3130, we needed to contact all our Senators to elicit their support. In some cases that took some time, and Jake was out there all alone for a while, holding up a bill that was being made out to be something it wasn't. Perception is so important. Finally, with others joining in, the bill was stopped.
- 6) The gun grabbers will be back. They always are. Frontal, obvious attacks

on our Rights can be seen and usually thwarted. We need to watch our flanks for the more subtle, sneak-it-in-under-the-radar attempts. We all need to stay together.



LTS (*The Travel Version*) GrassRoots Legislative Tactics Seminar!

The LTS is so important for GrassRoots members to attend that we want to take it on the road! People that attend the LTS will get the tools and skills to let them be more effective workers and leaders with much less work!

Here's what you have to do:

- 1) Find a place where 30 or so people can meet on a Saturday or Sunday from 9AM to 3PM. Churches, American Legion Posts, motels, chambers of commerce, town halls, are all likely places. It's best for people to have tables to sit at (classroom style).
- 2) Figure out how to provide a lunch for the attendees. The class runs from 9AM till 3PM with breaks every hour and 30-45minutes for lunch. Lunch can be pizzas or sub-sandwiches ordered that morning when you have a final count, or you could simply provide cold cuts, bread, chips and drinks from a local supermarket.
- 3) Figure out what the cost of the lunch and the meeting place are. If you can get any of this gratis-**WOW!!! GREAT !!!**

- 4) Once you've found a place, we'll need to set a time at least 1 month ahead. Contact Ed Kelleher , Rob Butler or Skip Cunningham to see when an instructor is available.
- 5) Give us a local contact person for people to call, including email, telephone and mailing address. Tell us what arrangements you plan to make for lunch, what your costs are and how much you need to charge.

GrassRoots will advertise the meeting to GrassRoots members in the area and have them call the designated local contact. GrassRoots will provide the Seminar leader, handouts and *sound system*. Get creative! We're not playing around. The LTS will give you the tools *to win!*

UPDATE ON JASON DICKEY



stances.

No news is good news for now with Jason Dickey, the GrassRoots member arrested for murder after a self defense shooting. The prosecution isn't currently aggressively pushing the case. Many have asked for more details on the events of the shooting. We'd like to comply, but Jason's attorney, Jack Swerling, has asked that we not report more than we have already on the circum-

The good news is, Jason is out of jail, once again busy attending classes at USC, and trying to get his life back on track. Jason said one of the biggest things that has helped him has been the overwhelming positive response from GrassRoots members. Over \$10,000 has been raised for Jason's legal defense fund and that's very encouraging to Jason who would have faced a tough decision on plea bargaining if he couldn't have afforded to mount a proper defense. But, as you can imagine, \$10,000 isn't nearly enough. Please help. You don't have to break the bank. Much of that amount has come from individuals sending \$10 or \$20.

Remember, 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.

A Prophecy Come True

Back in November, 2002, Rob Butler talked about the need for a GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund. His verbatim article is shown in the box below. GrassRoots leadership saw this as preventative medicine (the best kind). The events that unfolded around the Jason Dickey situation show just how prophetic this short article really was. You can see from our brief report on Jason Dickey an instance of how this fund will come into play. Thank you for understanding that, when dealing with sensitive and privacy issues, you may not get all the blow-by-blow details of cases and situations. Much work must remain behind the scenes. If and when information can be reported, rest assured that we will do so. Please consider contributing to this important element of GrassRoots. The need is ongoing.

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 knowledgable) 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

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 2446 • Lexington, SC 29071

GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund
PO Box 2446 • Lexington, SC 29071

GunRights PAC
220 Isobel • Lexington, SC 29072
(Donations to PAC are especially useful to us!)

GrassRoots GunRights
PO Box 2446 • Lexington, SC 29071

Why a Legal Defense Fund?

A Legal Defense Fund (LDF) is something we should fund now so that it will be available when needed to protect our rights. You don't buy health insurance after you get sick. To be properly protected we must fund a LDF now, before we need it.

The GrassRoots LDF will be used to set good legal precedent. There will always be more cases than there are funds, so we will have to prioritize cases.

The GrassRoots LDF will not protect all people. If a person carries a

sidearm into the statehouse, such a case would not be considered worthy. If a person carries a sidearm into a convenience store that is not clearly posted as having an on premises liquor license, such a case would be of interest to set the precedent that CWP holders cannot be victims of entrapment. We may even ask the courts to clarify the meaning of the law without waiting for someone to be prosecuted.

If you would like to contribute to the GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund, please send donations to:

GrassRoots Legal Defense Fund,
P.O. Box 2446, Lexington, SC 29071

The articles on this page are a kind of “case study” for GrassRoots members. You can see the text of a GrassRootsPAC e-mail alert that was sent out. (Please note that this was a PAC alert, and presenting it here is not a GrassRoots endorsement. It is for illustrative purposes only.)

The PAC Alert required immediate action. There was no time to put it in the mail. The effectiveness of this depended upon two things: (1) Your quick and positive action; and (2) you actually GETTING the alert. #1 is up to you to do what is right. #2 is even easier. Make sure we have your e-mail address and that we have it CORRECT. If you get no e-mails from us, and you asked us to put you on our list, either we goofed entering it, or we don't have it. Send it again. And check it to be sure it's right (correct case, dots where they need to be, spelling correct, etc.)

If you never sent us your e-mail, please do it. Some things are just not practical to do any other way. If you have Internet access you can get an e-mail address. Yahoo and Hotmail are two good examples of FREE e-mail sources.

On this page, we've replicated an article we ran a couple of years ago about this very subject. Take a moment to look it over, and then check to be sure we have you hooked up.

You've got mail...You've got mail...You've got mail...You've got mail...

Who's Sending All Those E-Mails?

In case you wonder where all those e-mails that refer to GrassRoots come from, let's try to clear that up.

SCfirearms is a Yahoo discussion group open to the general public. You can sign up and get the e-mails as they are posted, or you can sign up for the “Digest” version, and get a summary of all the e-mails sent by the group members once per day. Discussion is to be firearms related and our President, Ed Kelleher, is the list nazi....er...moderator. This list is open to pretty much anyone who signs up, and as long as the rules are followed and discussion stays on topic (both are at the interpretation of the moderator), anyone can participate, or just “lurk” and read what others say. You may also get occasional “GrassRoots E-Newsletters”.

GrassRoots Leadership is a list only for GrassRoots members. Only GrassRoots members can read and post, and application to join must be made. Your membership will be verified. If you're on this list, you'll get e-mails as list members post on GrassRoots topics and issues.

GrassRoots Alerts come **ONLY** from GrassRoots leaders. These are the types of things that deserve and rate your **IMMEDIATE** attention. They usually call for some type of action.

A good example might be an alert to fax your legislators **NOW** telling them how you want them to vote on a bill before a committee. A perfect illustration of this can be seen on page 15. Or we might remind you that **NOW** is the time to send in our by-now-famous orange postcards. If you see one of these alerts in your e-mail inbox, please **JUMP ON IT!!!**

GunRights PAC alerts come from GunRights PAC (political action committee), and are also of very high importance. They usually speak to a particular pressing need to support a legislator in a real fight. A good recent example is the one sent about Senator Danny Verdin (see adjacent column).

All these come from different places with different purposes. Hope this helps. E-mail Grassroots if you have questions.

Friends,

The true power of any grass roots organization - and that includes GrassRoots GunRights - comes from the ability to mobilize voters to put pressure on a politician. But, we can not forget that we must also reward those politicians who go the extra mile for us. That is why you are receiving this alert. Please take a couple of minutes and read this NOW.

Sen. Danny Verdin has been a primary sponsor in the Senate for every proposed bill that GrassRoots GunRights has wanted introduced since he was first elected in 2000. That is one of the reasons that the Democrats have targeted Sen. Danny Verdin for defeat in 2004. They want to get rid of one of the most pro gun legislators in the General Assembly. We can not allow the anti gun bigots to defeat Sen. Danny Verdin.

Please remember that only legislators can introduce legislation. Neither GrassRoots nor anyone else can introduce legislation - even legislation that is desperately needed. Thus, if GrassRoots members want to push for changes in our gun laws, we must first convince a politician to introduce the GrassRoots proposed legislation. Without the help of a politician, our proposed changes never see the light of day in the General Assembly.

Sen. Danny Verdin is vitally important to the GrassRoots legislative efforts because Sen. Danny Verdin has the guts to be the primary sponsor of GrassRoots proposed legislation and introduce the GrassRoots proposed legislation. Sometimes politicians tell us they will support pro gun legislation, but they will not introduce it. That does us very little good because without a politician to introduce the GrassRoots proposed legislation, there would be no legislation for us to push to get passed. Sen. Danny Verdin does what others are afraid to do - he stands up for gun owners.

Sen. Danny Verdin is our friend. Because Sen. Danny Verdin is a friend of gun owners, the Democrats are making a special effort to get rid of him. Sen. Danny Verdin needs our help.

Sen. Danny Verdin needs our help RIGHT NOW! His opponent is well funded by anti gun money.

We need to step up and show the anti gun bigots that we will NOT allow our best friend in the Senate to get beat while we sit back and ignore him.

Please send a contribution to help Sen. Danny Verdin TODAY! Sen. Danny Verdin needs the money to buy television time to counter the television time his opponent has just purchased. This needed television time must be paid for in advance. Thus, promises and late contributions are not good enough. Sen. Danny Verdin needs our help NOW!

Please send your contribution TODAY to either:

Verdin for Senate
P.O. Box 272
Laurens, SC 29360

Be sure to write “Thank you for supporting GrassRoots GunRights” on your check so that Sen. Verdin will know that his gun owner friends are helping him in his time of need.

OR

GunRights PAC
220 Isobel Court
Lexington, SC 29072

Be sure to write “Verdin” on your check so that the GunRights PAC will know where to send your contribution.
THANK YOU!!!!

Robert D. Butler, J.D.
GunRights PAC, President

Concealed Carry 101 Essentials

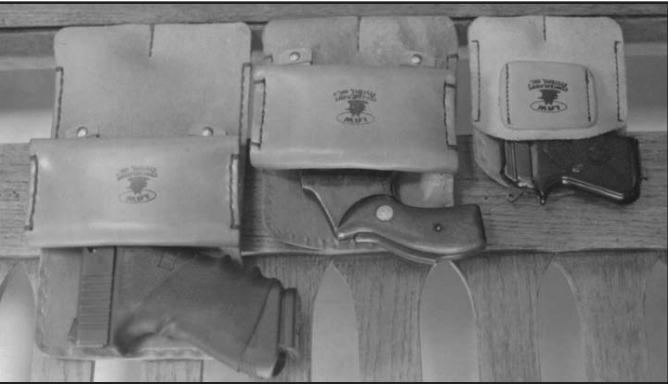
By R.K. Campbell

Some time before Abraham I am certain that the matter of size as it pertains to personal defense was settled. A big rock hit harder, and a big arrow or spear make the largest hole. Longer arms gave more reach. Later, as the world became more calm, we began to realize we could sometimes get by with smaller weapons. The Roman Short Sword was fine for town duty and the dagger was used stealthily on many occasions. In modern times, when men really needed a handgun they chose a big bore, be it a .44 or .45. When the chances of gunplay seemed more distant, a smaller gun was carried. The indomitable J. Henry Fitzgerald once remarked, “A man giving up a .45 for a .38 has gained a few ounces of comfort perhaps at the expense of his life.”

This is good advice. No, I am not advocating everyone get a cut down big frame .45 and revive the Fitz Special- but if you are over six foot four and 250 it just may work out. Simple physics and history show us that small bores cannot do the work of a large bore handgun. There have been any number articles published stating that small calibers are more effective than those of us with considerable police experience would ever believe. These 'studies' use unverifiable sources cloaked in shadow and the science is at the best suspect. Some may be a hoax. (When a cop tells you he has 'seen something' in action- and I have to be careful with this-what we really mean is 'I arrived just after the action was over.')

I have observed the aftermath of quite a few small caliber shootings and few are impressive. But I have seen death by the .22. What we must do is reach an acceptable compromise of power and weight, and we have to base that compromise upon the reality of the minimal acceptable calibers and the maximum weight we will tolerate.

If your threat level includes the possibility of a take over robbery then you had best learn to use a fast handling, powerful semi auto pistol. If the lone mugger is a threat, then perhaps a light revolver will serve. Choice encounters with the rougher sort are not always precursors to violent action, and a good attitude goes a long way. For some of us, the threat of a violent dog attack is a real danger. Many inadequate personalities adopt a snarling bit-



Here is an illustration of the sizes and weights available in carry guns. These are commonly carried handguns. Left to right, the Beretta .25, Smith and Wesson .38, and Glock .40 caliber.

ing prosthesis and the handgun we carry should give us at least a fighting chance against the largest such animal.

When we pack light, we should also pack smart. I realize the five inch barrel .45 auto is out of the comfort zone of most civilian carries. Frankly, I seldom deploy such heavy armament any longer.



Light enough but capable- a Glock 23 .40 claiber in a Fobus lightweight holster.

When on the Neo Nazis 'hit list' and apt to make arrests on my own time, I felt it wise to carry at least a Commander .45 or Browning High Power. Today, this is behind me. My likely threat is the same all of you face. I take care not to make my way to the ATM at night and keep my truck tank full when possible, limiting the need to replenish fuel in questionable neighborhoods.

As such, I have led a dull life since hanging the badge up. But I am prepared. I will not take the gun writers path of belittling one cartridge to build up another or boost my ego. But we do wish to deploy a cartridge that should take the fight out of an adversary with a minimum of well placed shots. This means the .38 Special +P and above. Those recommending any less caliber have no experience in interpersonal combat. It is not trite suggestion to go to the .22 and head shots if you cannot handle .38 Special recoil. A simple penetration test will show that even the .22 Magnum- and I don't recommend this cartridge- has greater penetration than the .32 Magnum. The small calibers are often murder weapons, but they are not defensive weapons. We must stop an attack, not kill someone by inducing internal bleeding.

Let's address your carry habits. Some of us adopt the habits of Sherlock Holmes- we grab the revolver and throw a cartridge or two in the chambers when we sense trouble. Many merchants stick a gun in their pocket when making a night deposit or when a 'rough crowd' enters the store. By adopting regular carry practice, with a reasonable sized handgun carried in good leather, you will be ready for a problem at all times. The balance of weight and effectiveness becomes interesting as we separate the practical and tactical aspects.

There are numerous modern guns that are advertised as snag free in carry as well as on the draw. These purpose designed defensive handguns are among the freshest ideas to come down the pike in some time. Most of the handguns I carried during my formative years were military or service type handguns, although some were slightly downsized versions. We have a bold new breed and some of them look very good indeed. A handgun without an exposed hammer will facilitate a draw that does not catch on draped clothing. Loosely cut garments that do not predictably bulge when a handgun is carried are a big help and should be considered in the overall plan.

The holster should be as thin as possible but strong, even rigid to maintain its shape and avoid flopping on the belt or in the trousers. The outer garments mean a great deal to the concealed carry program. Carrying a light handgun is not difficult but the smart part, keeping it concealed, is more



You can carry a serious handgun with care in holster selection. Note the double stitching, tunnel loop and overall workmanlike appearance of this Kramer holster, carrying a SIG P 228 9mm pistol.

difficult. Choose a darkly colored holster with little contrast to your clothing. A small but important asset is to choose a holster that features dark snaps, not brightly polished nickel snaps on the belt loops or retention straps. This will draw unwanted attention. The holster type you choose should be appropriate to the range of motion you expect during the day. A strong side holster may be exposed by bending, a shoulder holster can flop forward, and perhaps a crossdraw is just what you need. Or perhaps the heat and a demand for discrete carry will indicate an inside the waistband holster. Whichever seems appropriate, by all means obtain a quality example.

There are a number of small guns that stand out as capable and effective. The Kahr pistols have earned a well deserved reputation for reliability and quality manufacture. The pistols feature an offset feed ramp that allows the gun to place the trigger mechanism dead under the barrel, saving space and accomplishing things that cannot be done with a cut down service pistol. This is a true purpose designed compact pistol. The K 40 has given the author excellent service. When still in uniform I carried this handgun in an Alessi ankle holster as backup. The K 40 is compact enough for such carry yet it far more accurate than most pistols of it's size. With my carry load, the Winchester Silvertip, I could place five rounds into a four inch circle from the 25 yard barricade. Few short barrel revolvers will accomplish that. The grip is well

Continue on page 11

Continued from page 10

shaped for most hand sizes and the trigger action very smooth. This is an outstanding handgun.

Another handgun that I can report acceptable results with is the Taurus Millennium. At first, I tried to shoot this gun as well as a service pistol and of course I could not. But after a fair appraisal I find that for use at conversational distance this pistol has much to recommend. It is smooth in construction with few if any sharp edges. Simply grasp the gun and draw it, present it to the target, and press the long but smooth trigger. Available in .40 and .45 caliber as well as the light kicking 9mm, this is a good choice for personal defense.

Several of the Kimber 1911 types are offered in small frame versions with three inch barrels. These are among the very few compact versions of service pistols that achieve the reliability of the larger parent. Short slides and spring rates proved difficult to master and many makers never produced a truly reliable compact .45. The Kimbers are an exception. It may take more time and investment to master these guns, but they are quite effective and fire a fight stopping cartridge.

A true quality handgun that is a favorite of many of our high speed low drag class is the Heckler and Koch USP Compact. I have used mine extensively and found it good. It is accurate, reliable, and fairly easy to control in .40 caliber. It has more sharp edges than some, but the gun is usually smooth in operation. If it matters, mine for example will place five Winchester 180 grain SXT rounds into a ragged two inch circle at 25 yards. That's thinking out of the box for this type of gun.



From Graham Gunleather we find a pancake style holster that allows the snub .38 (Taurus 85) to leap into the hand. This high ride holster keeps the gun close at hand for rapid deployment.

I do not like to deploy a handgun smaller than .40 caliber, but often circumstance dictates a very compact gun or none at all. I have a number of well worn .38 Special revolvers and one new Taurus .38 Special Model 85. The revolver has several advantages. In a worst case scenario, and things can go bad quickly, the revolver can be placed against an opponents body and fired repeatably. This has worked on numerous occasions. The semi auto would jam after the first shot if used in a contact manner. This is an advantage of the revolver. The .38 Special +P offers a degree of effectiveness, often working well but like many smaller calibers sometimes requiring multiple shots. Still, it will be with us when the larger handgun is left at home.

These are my thoughts on packing lighter handguns. I think that some of the recommendations I have made include carrying excellent handguns that are reliable and effective- and often expensive.

We will address this at a later date.

Sources

Alessi Holsters
2465 Niagra Falls Blvd.
Amherst NY 14228

Fobus
1300 B 3 Industrial Hwy
Southampton PA 18966

Graham Custom Gunleather
2206 SE Hogan Road
Gresham OR 97080

Hedley Holsters
3133 Walnut St
NW Winterhaven FL 33881

High Noon Holsters
PO 2138
Palm Harbor FL 34682

Ironoak Leather Products
PO 16342
Philadelphia PA 19114

Kramer Gunleather
PO 112154
Tacoma WA 98411

Pocket Concealment Systems
PO 10271
Baltimore MD 21234

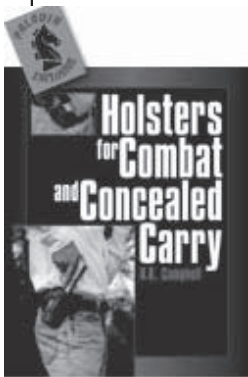
Milt Sparks Holsters
605 E 44th St, #2
Boise ID 83714

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	Lexington Pawn & Gun 4884 Sunset Blvd. Lexington, SC 803-957-4998	Santee Pawn Shop 803-854-2255 220 Santee Business Park Santee, SC 29142
Bear Creek Firearms Lynn Waller 9388 Macedonia Church Rd. Prosperity, SC 29127	Low Country Outfitters 843-837-6100 Moss Creek Village Hilton Head, SC 29926	Tony's Guns & Police Supplies 4308 Broad St. Extension Sumter, SC 29154 803-494-4867 www.tonysguns.com
Dick's Sporting Goods 803-749-0756 1110 Bower Pkwy. Columbia, SC 29212	Mike's Gun Shop 803-482-7094 www.mikesgunshop.com 435 Gunsite Rd. Winnsboro, SC 29180	Top Dollar Pawn 843-681-3400 7 Central Plaza, Mathens Dr. Hilton Head, SC 29926
Grady's Great Outdoors Tim Shirley 3440 Clemson Blvd. Anderson, SC 29621	Palmetto State Shooting Ctr 358 A Browns Cove Rd. Ridgeland, SC 843-379-4867	Totem Pole, Inc. Tommy Bell 864-427-9545 • 864-427-9543 315 Belvue Rd. Union, SC 29379
Greer Gun & Pawn Shop Mark Roberts 1457 W. Wade Hampton Blvd. Greer, SC 29650	Pappy's Gun Shop Clyde Baker 803-789-3028 4955 Tinker Creek Rd. Edgemoor, SC 29712	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 Comer, SC 29416	Personal Security Supplies Ernie Lawson 3390 Boiling Sprints Hwy. Boling Springs, SC 29316	Wateree Arms 803-695-7056 9321 Gamers Ferry Rd. Hopkins, SC 29061 www.watereearms.com
Hunter's HQ 560 Bypass 72 West Greenwood, SC 29649 864-229-2034	Port Royal Gun & Pawn 843-524-7043 2204 Mossy Oaks Rd. Port Royal, SC 29935	West Ashley Pawn & Consignment Ltd. Randy Frisch 829 Savannah Hwy. Charleston, SC 29407 843-769-0794
Island Outfitters 843-522-9900 180 Sea Island Pkwy. Beaufort, SC 29902	Ricky's Gun Service & Sales 843-521-4866 75 Burton Hill Rd. Beaufort, SC 29906	
J&S Gun Depot Sharon Waldrep 864-859-9065 404 Sheriff Mill Rd. Easley, SC 29642	Rook's Sales Jerry Rooks 239 N. Main St. Bishopville, SC 29010	

Book Offer...



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:

MHC
3288 Reidville Road
Spartanburg, SC 29301
Make check or money order for \$25.95 payable to: R K Campbell.

Attention Gun Shop Owners Potential New Feature

We want to see if there's any interest among gun store owners to place in each of the quarterly editions of *The Defender* a "Gun Store of the Quarter" article. We haven't fleshed this out yet. We want your feedback and ideas. We may feature several stores in each issue. Some possibilities: You would have to provide us a write-up we can edit, provide photos if you wanted to (in jpeg) format, things like that. Let us know what you think. E-mail Skip Cunningham at skip13@sc.rr.com with your comments, ideas, and suggestions.

Now That the Assault Weapons Ban Has Expired

Continued from page 5

- 299 additional shooting reported in the statistics are legal interventions. What we might call “good shoots” performed by law enforcement.

- Of the remaining 10,828 firearm homicides, only the tiniest fraction (roughly 1%) of these involves "assault weapons". This was also true prior to the AWB. Statistically, any "benefits" from the AWB would be immeasurably small. Put another way, there were roughly 100 “assault weapon” deaths in 1993 prior to the AWB, there were roughly the same number in the years following the AWB. These are not my findings; they are the finding of The National Institute of Justice, the research arm of the U.S. Department of Justice. You see, the AWB included a requirement that the Attorney General provide a report to Congress within 30 months evaluating the effects of the ban¹.

So that would mean that the odds of you dying in a firearm related homicide is in actuality more in the neighborhood of 1 in 26000. And the odds of you dying by the hand of an “assault weapon” wielding maniac would be on the order of 1 in 2.6 million, in any given year. The odds of such a thing happening over the entire course of your life would be around 1 in 34,000. By way of comparison, your life-time odds of dying as an occupant in a car during a traffic accident is 1 in 247, 136 times greater than being killed by an “assault weapon”. Indeed, your odds of dying by a force of nature, such as lightning or flood, are over 11 times greater⁵.

And of course, we have not even considered the benefits of actually owning a firearm. What of the 2.5 million defensive uses of guns every year⁶? Even conservative estimates are on the order of 1 million. Doing the most rudimentary cost-benefit analysis argues that the good outweighs the bad by a factor of 35 to 1 (if not more). By the same CDC statistics, swimming pools and ladders are deadlier than guns. We accept the risk of these other things because we believe they have a greater benefit, even necessity. Why is it so difficult for some people to treat guns (even those nasty, Rambo-esque "assault weapons") with the same degree of fairness? Any untimely death is a tragedy, but curtailing our rights in a free country should not be the default solution to the problem. Not everything can be fixed by keeping yet another law on the books.

The assault weapons ban was given a sunset provision because even some members of Congress suspected that the law would likely be ineffective. Now after the AWB has demonstrably shown its inefficacy for a decade, some want to pretend that its removal is a travesty. And that simply is not true.

¹ *Vital Statistics*, National Center for Health Statistics, 1999; http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/statab/VS00199_TABL250F.pdf
² 2000 U.S. Census Web Page; <http://www.census.gov/census2000/states/us.html>
³ *Vital Statistics*, National Center for Health Statistics, 1999, Table 250A; http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/data/statab/VS00199_TABL250F.pdf
⁴ "Impacts of the 1994 Assault Weapons Ban: 1994-96," NCJ 173405, (Washington: National Institute of Justice, 1999), Jeffrey A. Roth and Christopher S. Koper; <http://www.ncjrs.org/pdffiles1/173405.pdf>
⁵ National Safety Council Fact Sheet: “What are the Odds of Dying?”; <http://www.nsc.org/lrs/statinfo/odds.htm>
⁶ “More Guns, Less Crime: Understanding Crime and Gun-Control Laws”, (Univ. of Chicago Press, 2nd Edition, 2000), John R. Lott Jr.



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.

What gun owners say:



What anti-gunners hear:



YOU CAN REACH THOUSANDS OF GUN OWNERS WHEN YOU ADVERTISE IN

The Defender

CONTACT SKIP CUNNINGHAM NOW TO RESERVE YOUR SPACE IN THE NEXT ISSUE

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skip13@sc.rr.com

LETTERS

Pickens County Council - Shooting Ranges in Trouble

In 1994 shortly before I took another job and returned to my native South, the Pickens County Council was all set to enact very bad shooting range regulations. NRA did a mailing, and I am told and enough people showed up and the attempt was dropped.

When an updated Development Standards Ordinance (DSO 304) was being drawn up, once again, very bad shooting range regulations were inserted. This time they put them in the middle of this 121 page document just after the election of new County Council members.

In the Republican primary and runoff elections we were able to defeat all the County Councilmen who allowed the range regulation to be placed into the Development Standards Ordinance 304. We held them accountable to the voters. However, one of the beaten incumbents has gotten a 69-year-old former politician to qualify by petition. In the only election in Pickens County where there is a contest, this old politician is running against NRA member Ben Trotter in District 3. I have talked to Ben. He is a second amendment supporter. Since he has never held political office before, we do not have a voting record on which to base advice, but knowing the support of the other guy in the race, I believe Ben is the best choice. This one county council seat will determine the balance of power on the council !

At the Republican Breakfast meeting Saturday morning June 12 each candidate was given a very brief time to speak. The chairman of the Pickens County Council, Ron Harrison, said looking at me “There is a negative force in Pickens County.”

DSO304 will come up for a council vote again, and it contains no grandfather clause to protect existing ranges built prior to January 1, 2000. Please consider these facts before voting for a County Council candidate in Pickens County district 3 and consider voting for Ben Trotter.

Very truly yours,

Weldon H. Clark Jr.
(work number 864-878-6331 ext. 4334 home 864-878-0407)

Representative Dwight Loftis is Under Attack - He Repealed Gun Ban in SC

Representative Dwight Loftis (SC House District 19 in Greenville County) is a friend of GrassRoots based upon his voting record. Representative Loftis supported South Carolina's Law Abiding Citizens Self-Defense Act of 1995 and each of the Grassroots improvements since then. He is now being challenged by a very liberal democrat.

He introduced and helped pass a bill to repeal a firearms ban in South Carolina. It was illegal for 9 years to own, possess, transport, buy sell or even inherit any firearm originally manufactured for the United States government under contract. When I first relocated back to my native South I was astonished to learn that it was illegal to transport, store, keep, posses, sell, rent or give away a "military firearm;" that is any firearm manufactured for military use by a firm licensed by the federal government pursuant to a contract with the federal government. I posses a rifle originally manufactured for the United States government under contract. Most firearms owners in the state also posses such firearms as the .45 pistol, bolt action 1903 Springfields, 30-40 Krag's, M1 Grande, M1 Carbine, Single Action Colts used by the Calvary and many others. Many of these firearms were sold by the United States government under the Department of Civilian Marksmanship program now converted to a private corporation. My particular rifle is an 1873 Springfield. The government gave it to my Great Uncle John Fargo after the Spanish American War (1898). The rifle is not an antique because it uses a cartridge (the 45-70) readily available in interstate commerce.

These firearms owned by tens of thousands of South Carolina residents may or may not be of government origin and there is no practical way for the ordinary individual to know this.

The state legislature voted to change the language so as to safeguard tens of thousands of gunowners who could have been prosecuted under the old statutory language which was an outright ban on all rifles, shotguns and handguns which had originally been manufactured under a military contract. Sponsor of the repeal measure was Rep. Dwight Loftis (R-19th Dist.) as H-3632 and Senator Larry Martin (R 2nd) as S-505. Please consider these facts when voting for South Carolina House in District 19 in Greenville County.

Very truly yours,

Weldon H. Clark Jr.
Home 864-878-0407
e mail whcgearman@bellsouth.net
100 Heathwood Drive Liberty, SC 29657
Work 864-878-6331 ask for ext 4334
Work fax 864-898-4005

Letters...we get letters..... But we want more!!!

We want to re-establish a letters from readers section in each edition of *The Defender*. Please send us your comments and opinions.....especially about issues and topics that are top of mind for you. We'll try not to edit TOO much....just if we need to trim for room, or to keep the point you're making.

Snail mail them to the attention of Skip Cunningham, c/o The Defender, P.O. Box 2446 , Lexington, SC 29071

Better yet !!! E-mail Skip Cunningham at skip13@sc.rr.com Please put “Letter to the editor-Defender” in the subject line. That way, we'll know you want it published. It will help separate it from all the other correspondence we get.

However you do it and whatever you want to put on the envelope or in the subject line-PLEASE WRITE. The diverse opinions and ideas we get make us all think!!!!

GrassRoots Position on Criminal Domestic Violence (CDV)

(NOTE: This position was the basis of our written response and the essence of the message sent to the SC Senate in the closing days of the 2004 legislative session, as H3130 was put back into play. The basic tenets of our position remain, even though, as this is written, the bill is dead. We have the text of the actual fax sent to Senators on page 15, we suggest that you re-read it.)

GrassRoots GunRights opposes H.3130 as it is presently written. GrassRoots **does not condone domestic violence**. But, not everything done in the **name** of fighting domestic violence should be condoned. H. 3130 is one of those things that should not be condoned.

Simply put, H. 3130 is an anti gun rights bill that merely uses domestic violence as an excuse to impose gun control. H. 3130 is not about combating domestic violence.

H.3130 will hurt far more women than it will help. It will hurt women in that it prevents really effective action being taken to prevent CDV. H.3130 is eyewash. It's the easy way out for people that want to appear tough on CDV, but not have to be tough.

GrassRoots feels if the proponents of H. 3130 and the General Assembly were truly interested in combating domestic violence, then the penalties imposed would be more than a mere 30 days in jail **OR \$500** fine as set forth in Section 16-25-20, which is one of the sections of law that triggers the penalties found in H. 3130. But sadly, the proponents of H. 3130 have failed to truly address the crime of domestic violence. Instead, they only attack guns.

But, these anti gun bigots have failed to even propose increasing the meager penalties for domestic violence offenders who do not own guns. Instead, these anti gun bigots only propose to provide extreme punishments for gun owners who commit domestic violence. In fact, these anti gun bigots are so focused on their anti gun agenda that they propose extreme punishments for gun owners even when guns are not involved in the domestic violence.

It is extreme and unreasonable to first choose to deny people their constitutionally protected rights for committing a particular crime rather than to first impose significant penalties for committing such crime. GrassRoots proposes that H. 3130 have all language after the enacting words deleted and replaced with the following:

Section 16-25-20 is amended to read:
“(B) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who violates subsection (A) is guilty of the misdemeanor of criminal domestic violence and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than ~~five hundred~~ one thousand dollars, ~~or imprisoned not more than thirty days~~ one year, or both. The court may suspend the imposition or execution of all or part of the sentence conditioned upon the offender completing, to the satisfaction of the court, a program designed to treat batterers.

(C) A person who violates subsection (A) and who has been convicted of a violation of that subsection or of Section 16-25-65 within the previous ten years is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than ~~five hundred one thousand~~ one thousand dollars and imprisoned not more than ~~thirty days~~ one year. The court may suspend the imposition or execution of all or part of the sentence conditioned upon the offender completing, to the satisfaction of the court, a program designed to treat batterers.”

The GrassRoots proposed substitute language is reasonable and would:

1. demonstrate that domestic violence is considered a serious issue in SC;
2. impose penalties that would truly serve as a deterrent to committing domestic violence, and thereby save innocent people from becoming future victims;
3. not discriminate against gun owners; and
4. not offend our constitutionally protected rights.

The government should only consider denying a person their constitutional rights as a last resort. First, the government should attempt to create remedies that do not infringe upon constitutionally protected rights. Only if reasonable alternatives have failed should the government consider more extreme remedies.

If the proponents of H. 3130 and the General Assembly are only willing to impose relatively meager penalties for the crime of domestic violence upon non gun owners, how do they justify imposing gargantuan penalties upon gun owners for committing the very same crime? H. 3130 is nothing more than an anti gun rights attempt to chip away at our God given right to keep and bear arms.

One might argue that the General Assembly does view domestic violence as a more serious crime as evidenced by Section 16-25-65, which is a felony. But, such a felony conviction already imposes upon the convicted person a federal lifetime firearms disability. See 18 USC 922(g). Thus, H. 3130 does not additionally punish those who have committed these felonies. H. 3130 only additionally punishes those who have committed what the General Assembly has defined as a relatively minor misdemeanor. This is wrong.

H. 3130 would also impose gargantuan penalties upon gun owners if they are subject to a protection order, but not upon non gun owners who are subject to the same protection order. This is wrong. Ironically, there does not even have to be a finding that a firearm has ever been used or threatened to be used before a gun owner can be denied their God given right to keep and bear arms by H. 3130. This is wrong, too.

A friend of mine was a Captain with the Lexington County Sheriff's Department. We were discussing laws that create firearms disabilities. He wanted to know why it was permissible to deny a person their

Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms, but it was not permissible to deny people their 1st, 4th, 5th, 6th, and 8th Amendment rights. There is no logical reason for dividing up the individual rights found in the Bill of Rights.

If preventing crime is the claimed reason, then he said that being able to break into a person's home without a search warrant issued upon probable cause, then beating a confession out of the person, or holding them without bail until they confessed, and denying them the assistance of counsel would do wonders for getting convictions. But, there are lines drawn to protect people from government abuse that we should not cross. H. 3130 crosses one of these lines.

H. 3130 will forever deny hunters the right to teach their children about the joys of hunting and the outdoors merely because they once committed a relatively minor misdemeanor. This is wrong.

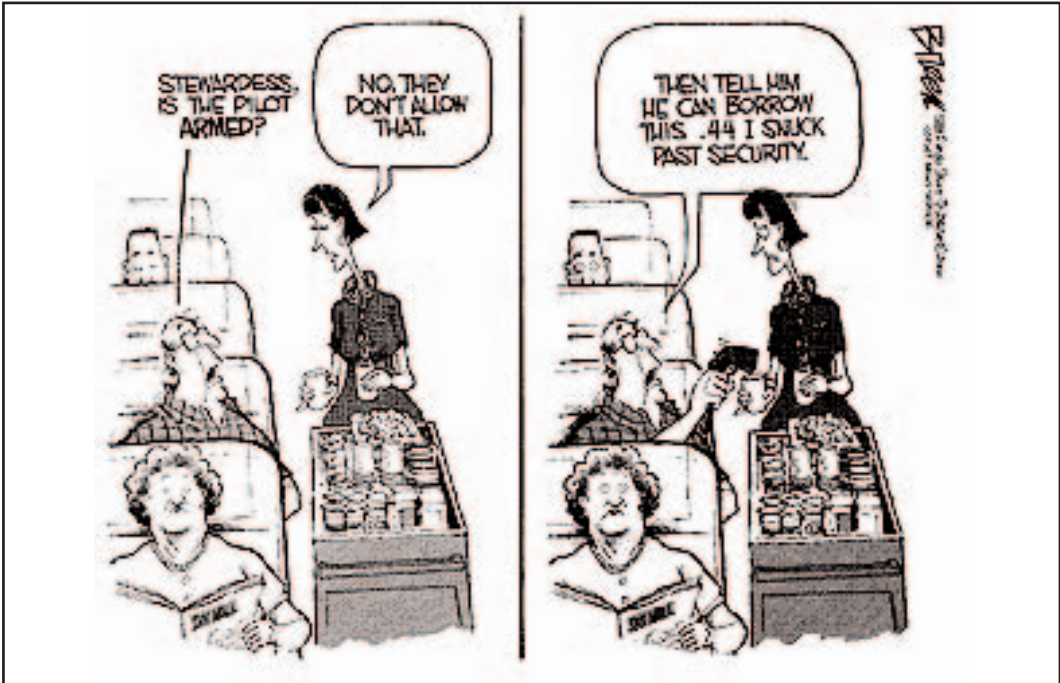
H. 3130 will forever deny people the right to effective self defense merely because they once committed a relatively minor misdemeanor. This is wrong.

H. 3130 will treat those merely accused of a crime as if they have been convicted of the crime. This is wrong.

GrassRoots does not condone sacrificing our God given rights on the alter of political correctness. H. 3130 is a bad bill and needs to die. The failure of the proponents of this bill to even propose increasing the meager penalties for domestic violence for non gun owning offenders proves that domestic violence is only a cover for their gun control agenda.

GrassRoots must oppose H. 3130 because it is merely an excuse to enact more anti gun laws. H. 3130 does nothing to protect innocent people from domestic violence. But, H. 3130 does help to destroy the foundations of our Bill of Rights. We respectively ask you to please vote against H. 3130.

GrassRoots GunRights South Carolina Inc.



FAX #2 SENT TO SC STATE SENATORS

H.3130 has been represented as pertaining only to people convicted of FELONY Criminal Domestic Violence (CDV). THIS IS INCORRECT. H.3130 will let the firearms be taken away from a person who is merely CHARGED with MISDEMEANOR CDV under 16-25-20 (A) with NO finding of imminent danger required. Section 16-25-20 (A) carries a maximum penalty of \$500 OR 30 days in jail. H.3130 has passed the house and is now up for 2nd reading in the Senate. GrassRoots OPPOSES H.3130 and urges you to do so.

Here is one provision of H.3130:
Section 17-15-40 (C) If a person is charged with a criminal domestic violence pursuant to Section 16-25-20(A), the court may order the person, as a condition of bond, and only when requested by or with the consent of the victim or the victim's representative, to surrender to the County Sheriff all firearms

Here is Current SC CDV law:
SECTION 16-25-20. (A) It is unlawful to:
(1) cause physical harm or injury to a person's own household member; or
(2) offer or attempt to cause physical harm or injury to a person's own household member with apparent present ability under circumstances reasonably creating fear of imminent peril.
(B) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person who violates subsection (A) is guilty of the misdemeanor of criminal domestic violence and, upon conviction, must be fined not more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days.

GrassRoots view is that:
1) If a person is such a risk that their firearms should be taken from them than they SHOULD BE PUT IN JAIL INSTEAD as they might just as easily use a baseball bat, tire iron, steak knife or their fists to harm someone.
2) If Misdemeanor CDV is such a serious crime then its penalty should reflect that. A mere 30 days OR \$500 is a just slap on the wrist. Absent any serious time or fine, H.3130 is just a GUN CONTROL bill.
3) Federal law already prohibits firearms possession for any person who has been convicted of ANY crime for which they might have been sentenced to more than 1 year in prison, Conviction for CDV of a high and aggravated nature, section 16-25-65 is a FELONY and already prohibits such a person from possessing firearms.

We urge you to oppose H.3130 for the Gun Control bill it really is.

Ed Kelleher, President, GrassRoots GunRights South Carolina Inc.

EMAIL ALERT SENT TO GRASSROOTS MEMBERS ON H.3130:

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW! WEDNESDAY AM! NOW!

H.3130, a bill pertaining to Criminal Domestic Violence (CDV) is moving forward. The ONLY senator opposing it is Jake Knotts and he's taking real heat.

H.3130 lets all your guns be taken by the County Sheriff if you are merely CHARGED with Misdemeanor CDV! OR HAVE A RESTRAINING ORDER PLACED AGAINST YOU IN A DIVORCE CASE!

H.3130 MUST BE STOPPED OR AMENDED.

GrassRoots has sent faxes to the Senators and we are doing so again this morning. In case the bill passes, we're working with Jake Knotts to get some amendments into the bill stripping out the gun control aspects.

WE NEED YOUR HELP NOW!

PLEASE CALL YOUR SENATOR NOW! and KEEP CALLING! PLEASE CALL SEVERAL TIMES! 10 TIMES ISN'T TOO MUCH! WE MUST LIGHT UP THE SENATE SWITCHBOARD OPPOSING H.3130 WE MUST PUT SOME BACKBONE IN OUR SENATORS.

WE MUST! GET SOME SUPPORT FOR SEN. JAKE KNOTTS. JAKE KNOTTS CAN'T DO IT ALONE!

RIGHT NOW PLEASE DO THE FOLLOWING:

- 1) Call the Senate Switchboard 803-212-6700**
- 2) Ask for one of the Senators from your County (Listed below)**
- 3) Say, "I'm from <your county> County. I OPPOSE H.3130! IT IS GUN CONTROL. IT WILL HURT WOMEN, NOT HELP THEM. PLEASE SUPPORT SENATOR JAKE KNOTTS IN CHANGING H.3130."**

H.3130 ADDS NO additional penalty to misdemeanor CDV. Misdemeanor CDV ONLY has a MAXIMUM penalty of \$500 OR 30 days. It doesn't protect women because all it does is take away GUNS, not knives, or bottles or bats or fists.

It DEMONIZES firearms so much that women will NOT use the BEST TOOL to prevent CDV - A FIREARM!

ASK TO BE RETURNED BACK TO THE SWITCHBOARD. ASK FOR THE OTHER SENATORS IN YOUR COUNTY AND REPEAT THE MESSAGE!

- 4) If you can send a FAX, do so to: Senate Fax: 803-212-6299**

Gun Shows and GrassRoots

With the support of our members, GrassRoots will again have a table at each of the Gun Shows listed below for 2005. Please note new show dates are added for Myrtle Beach. We also have some special GrassRoots tables at some other venues. It is our volunteers who make it possible for these good things to happen.

Keep checking our Website <http://www.scfirearms.org> and future issues of "The Defender", for announcements and updates.

More and more of our members are giving their time and talents by volunteering to work a shift at our GrassRoots tables at Gun Shows. 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, 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.

Gun Show Table Organizers

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

Charleston & Myrtle Beach Tom Glabb (843) 769-0659, Howard Jones, III (843) 538-5668

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 gunshows@scfirearms.org

Please use
 GrassRoots
 CWP Instructor members...



GrassRoots CWP Instructor Members are listed at:
www.scfirearms.org/TrainingCWPGrassRootsCWPTrainerList.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.

GrassRoots SC • PO Box 2446 • Lexington, SC 29071

South Carolina Gun Shows Scheduled for remainder of 2004 and for 2005

Greenville *Palmetto Expo Center*
 2004 Dec. 18 - 19
 2005 Feb. 12 - 13, Apr. 2 - 3, Sept. 10 - 11 Dec. 17 -18

Spartanburg *Spartanburg Expo Center (formerly Waccamaw)*
 2004 Oct. 23 -24
 2005 TBD (watch for dates in next issue)

Columbia *Jamil Shrine Temple*
 2004 Nov. 13 - 14
 2005 Jan. 8 - 9, Apr. 30 - May 1 July 30 - 31 Nov. 12 - 13

Columbia *SC State Fairgrounds*
 2004 Dec. 11 - 12
 2005 June 18 - 19, Dec. 10 - 11

Florence *Florence Civic Center*
 2004 Nov. 6 - 7
 2005 Mar. 5 - 6, July 23 - 24, Nov. 5 - 6

Myrtle Beach
 2004 Oct. 30 - 31
 2005 Oct. 29 - 30

Charleston *Exchange Park Fairgrounds, Ladson*
 2005 Jan. 15 - 16, Sept. 17 - 18



LAND OF THE SKY GUN & KNIFE SHOWS

"Nothing could be finer than to be in Carolina!"



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

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

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

8 Tables - \$50
Adults \$6
Under 12 FREE

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

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

For Reservations or Information:
Mike Kent
PO Box 685 • Monroe, GA 30655
770-267-0989
mlkshows@yahoo.com
Visit us on the web:
www.mikekentshows.com

Saturday 9-5
Sunday 10-4