

# Grass Roots South Carolina

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Sumter, South Carolina 29151

Internet: <http://www.scfirearms.org>

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## South Carolinians with Concealed Weapons

### Permits Deemed Exempt from Instant Checks!

S.L.E.D. notified by BATF that in South Carolina CWP Holders Exempt!

First, the big news for **CWP holders in South Carolina is that they are exempt from the Federal NICS check!** That's right, exempt! In November the BATF sent out letters to FFL holders advising that CWP holders in certain states could show their CWP to the FFL holder when purchasing a firearm and be exempt from the Federal background check. Grass Roots South Carolina held back from immediately notifying its members until we heard from S.L.E.D. as to their position on this issue (we understand Tennessee stated they would do the checks anyway). We now have a letter from S.L.E.D. advising that a CWP issued by South Carolina will be honored as an alternative to NICS Instant Check (Federal

Background Check previously termed "Brady"). What does this mean? Well, for shotgun and rifle purchases you should be able to purchase your firearm just as you always have without any telephone calls of any kind (too bad for those without CWP permits! - they will have to undergo NICS checks). When purchasing a pistol or revolver your FFL holder will have to call S.L.E.D. for the purpose of ensuring compliance with South Carolina's limit of one handgun per 30 days. However, S.L.E.D. will not be calling NICS. Spread the news and encourage your friends to get their CWPs soon! Heck, avoidance of the \$5.00 fee to S.L.E.D. with each transaction could net you a profit in the long run!

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## Who We Are and Our Purpose

Modeled after similar organizations in other states, Grass Roots South Carolina is a project of **Mid-Carolina Rifle Club**. Our mission is to educate and promote acceptance of responsible firearms ownership within the State of South Carolina and to protect the rights of law abiding citizens who have chosen to obtain concealed weapons permits.

Initially we focused all of our attention on Merchants who posted against the lawful carrying of concealed weapons in their stores. Since then we have broadened our scope and are currently increasing information delivery to the concealed weapons permit holder and instructor. No doubt as we continue to grow we will further broaden our objectives to improve all aspects of lawful ownership and carrying of firearms in South Carolina.

We have already learned that making positive change with merchants, communities, and others is greatly improved when we use the resources of many. By having increased numbers of educated individuals in each community our efforts are multiplied many times over.

Regarding educating merchants who post against concealed weapons: Our operating protocol is available upon request and explains how our organization works. Briefly, we initially contact merchants who have posted signs against concealed weapons and attempt to educate them. Afterwards, we hope that they will either remove their signs or post an alternative sign which we provide. If they do neither we distribute the name of the business to thousands of South Carolinians via gun clubs, hunt clubs, shooting sports associations, business supporters, wildlife groups, the Internet, and any other available means encouraging CWP holders and others to not shop where they are in jeopardy of violating the law.

We have had cards printed for those of you who want to report businesses that are posting signs against concealed carry permit holders. If you are interested in being a part of this effort and would like more information regarding this grass roots effort please contact us and we will place you on the supporter list. With your help we can succeed.

## Regarding Reciprocity...

The South Carolina Law Enforcement Agency is directed to coordinate with other states issues of concealed weapons permit reciprocity. As of January 28, 1999:

South Carolina recognizes permits from AR, WY, UT, and TN.

South Carolina CWP holders may legally carry in AK, AR, TN, ID, IN, KY, MI, WY, OK, UT, and VT.



### Our Current Wallet Card

#### Grass Roots South Carolina Wallet Card

The Following Business Posts Against CWP:

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Owner/Manager Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to: GRSC, P.O. Box 1181, Sumter, SC 29151  
or Fax to: (803) 791-1981

Get Your Wallet Cards by Sending in  
the back page of this newsletter.  
(psst, Get some for your friends too!)



### Cards Available!

In response to many requests from individuals requesting a two-part card which would enable them to leave something for the merchant we have had the following cards printed:



*We have noticed your sign, and are going to respect your wishes by shopping elsewhere.*

Cards are free! Just send in a SASE and we'll send you some cards! (Of course we'll gladly take a donation too.)

### Fact:

As of January 29, 1999 there are 18,588 licensed CWP holders in South Carolina! (15,535 men and 3,053 women) All of whom have been deemed law abiding citizens by their county, state, and the FBI!

## Congratulations!

## Thanks for the Support!

For the past two years Grass Roots South Carolina has been supported solely by contributions from interested groups, clubs, businesses, and individuals like you. We have no dues, no fees, and no services or products to sell. We exist to serve the concealed weapon permit holder and merchants interested in obtaining more information regarding The Law Abiding Citizens Act of 1996. Please consider a donation to keep GRSC growing.

## GRSC Wants You!

Our mission is to educate and promote acceptance of responsible firearms ownership within the State of South Carolina. We make change because we operate at a personal level with affiliated clubs, merchants, and supporters.

We welcome input from anyone within the State of South Carolina. In fact, unlike big organizations, we are seeking your input and your help! Currently we are looking for people throughout the state who can help us increase our contact and information flow to various like-minded clubs, organizations, and groups. If you belong to such a club consider acting as a liaison between GRSC and your club.

Write, E-mail, or Fax us and let us know how you'd like to help.

## Concealed Weapons Permit

**Laws** now in effect in 32 states, are a major factor in reducing violent crime. This was proven by University of Chicago by Professors John Lott and David Mustard in their landmark 1996 study, "Crime, Deterrence and Right-to-Carry Concealed Handguns." The researchers examined crime in the more than 3,000 U.S. counties from 1977 to 1992 and discovered liberalized concealed-carry laws reduced murders by 8.5 percent, rapes by 5 percent and aggravated assaults by 7 percent.

Visit

GRSC's Internet Site:

[www.scfirearms.org](http://www.scfirearms.org)

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# GRSC Update

## Bringing You Up To Date with GRSC

By Ralph Baker

My Representative and Senator sponsored the Citizens Self Defense Act of 1996. I was involved in that effort from the beginning and it is the best law we could have gotten passed at the time. Being a slow learner, I was also at the conception of GRSC, with the intention of working to make the 18,000 permits more useful and to improve the law. Response to our mailings has been outstanding. Thanks to all of you who have validated the efforts of the few volunteers. Particular thanks to those who enclosed a contribution in their response as this has been more expensive than we at first envisioned. We couldn't have done it without the support of those who responded. We are now in the process of further organizing to become even more effective at educating merchants, CWP holders, CWP instructors, and state legislators.

Now we need to make the next leap of faith and organize those who will benefit from improvements in the law -YOU! The existing volunteers are working in their neighborhoods. If we are to make statewide changes the power base must be expanded. That's where you come in. You are the only one who has a voice your local merchants and legislators will hear. We can supply facts, suggestions, moral support, and a centralized organization.

What only you can supply is the local touch. Our thought is to organize by South Carolina House District. That is a small, workable, geographic area and you will be working with friends. It is also the best legislative approach to make the law more "user friendly". The only requirement is that you want to improve the CWP situation. We don't concern ourselves with the things that are often used to divide people into groups. If you are a CWP holder we want you!

There will be little time required, only as much as you care to give. You will be dealing with stores in your area, your legislators, and others of like-mind in your area. Please help us help you. What do you need to do now? Just drop us a note with your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, fax number, and any special skills or interest areas. There

is a place for everyone and each can help, and must, if this is to work. I look forward to making progress with you.

## GRSC Frequently Asked Questions

By Larry Coble

Along with the many positive responses we have received as a result of the "Do You Carry a Gun" fliers, we also have received many, many questions. As time permits we have tried to answer as fully and completely as possible all questions. I thought that perhaps a column here might answer those same questions for everyone interested.

**Q: Who are you?**

A: GRSC is a committee formed by members of Mid-Carolina Rifle Club. Since then we have contacted so many interested people that we are no longer strictly made up of Mid-Carolina members. Anyone may join our committee and certainly anyone may take part in our grass roots efforts.

**Q: Do you have copies of your previous newsletters available?**

A: We have a limited number of most of our previous newsletters. You may have them as for as long as they are available. Please remember that we have no dues or income other than your generosity. If you are asking us to send you all of our previous newsletters a gift to cover our printing and postage would be graciously appreciated! In committee, discussion of this interest in our pervious newsletters had led us to decide to "bring back" one article from previous issues in each of our upcoming newsletters to get everyone caught up.

**Q: Can I send you my neighbor's name and address so you can add him to your mailing list?**

A: We try to accommodate all requests as resources permit. We will eventually have made contact with every CWP holder in the state offering them an opportunity to participate in our efforts. Sending out unrequested newsletters is costly and while we would like to send a newsletter to everyone in the phonebook it just isn't feasible at present. Consider copying your newsletter and offering it to those you think might be interested. Tell them how they can get on our regular mailing list.

**Q: Do you sell your mailing list?**

A: Absolutely not! Don't even ask! We consider your participation in our efforts to be your business and for you to participate as much or as little as you like. We will not jeopardize your privacy.

**Q: Are you affiliated with a national organization such as the NRA or GOA?**

A: No, we are not affiliated with any national or state RKBA organization. However I'll admit that most of the committee members hold membership in multiple national and state firearms organizations - we just can't get enough of "gun stuff!"

**Q: How did you get my name and address as a CWP holder?**

A: The Law Abiding Self Defense Bill was originally drafted with the assistance of pro-gun constituents who placed, within the proposed bill, a clause restricting access to information regarding CWP holders. While debated in the South Carolina House committees, this clause came under fire from the newspaper lobby who wanted access to the names of CWP holders under the Freedom of Information Act. We fought this effort however we lost. In retrospect I think inclusion of this restriction would have improved the final bill but since I'm stuck with lemons...let's make lemonade!

**Q: I've heard that New Hampshire concealed weapons permits are honored in Georgia and that you have some. Can I get one?**

A: Yes, we have New Hampshire CWP permit applications and as of this time Georgia has reciprocity with New Hampshire (even NH Out of State Permits). We have had these reprinted in the original N.H. State application color of blue. They are available from GRSC free of charge. We ask that you send a stamped self-addressed envelope requesting the N.H. permit to our Sumter address and we will get one out to you ASAP. Any donation would be gleefully accepted but is not required.

**Q: What can be done about the size of my permit? It's larger than my gun!**

A: S.L.E.D. has come out with a new, smaller permit. To get one, send in your old one requesting the new style. Keep a notarized copy until the new one arrives.

## GRSC Letters from the Editor's Desk

### In Our E-mail Box:

On New Year's Eve, I spoke with several persons listed on your anti-CWP alert page. One man in particular was absolutely rude, condescending and bull-headed towards me. He was Mr. Fred Kotoske, the owner of all the midlands area Taco Bells. He said he could not be persuaded to change his policy! During the course of our conversation, he became very agitated, and would not even let me finish my sentences. He said he didn't know who I was or what my agenda was, and he wouldn't let me tell him that I'm just a young woman who loves tacos and who also loves her life (and will defend it.) He would not let me tell him about my friend's wife who was followed home from shopping. She was killed in the doorway of her home. He children, returning from school, found her dead in a pool of blood. It was then that I decided that carrying a gun in self-defense was for me.

Mr. Kotoske actually told me it was inappropriate for me to call him and ask him about his weapons policy, and that if I wanted to address him, I would have to write him a letter which he would then forward to his security officer who would then answer me. Mr. Kotoske's address is Post Office Box 24709, Columbia, SC 29224. By the way, he admitted to me that he himself has a CWP and carries in his stores!

I have eaten my last Taco Bell taco, I can assure you, if just for the fact that this man was so ever-loving rude to me!

Name Withheld by Editor

### Regarding Gun Related Businesses:

Lately we have been receiving many reports of Gun Related Businesses posting against Concealed Carry in South Carolina. Almost always the issue with the business in question is "safety." With a high volume of customers handling firearms the business owner has an unusual situation not encountered by typical merchants. Here's a letter we wrote to help our Grass Roots when approaching businesses that fall into this category such as pawnshops, gunshops, gunsmiths, and indoor shooting ranges:

Dear Merchant:

We here at Grass Roots are well aware of the special safety issues involved in a firearm-oriented business, specifically, gun handling. At any given point in time, many if not most, customers in a gunshop will be handling firearms, as opposed to nearly any other type of business, where all firearms tend to remain in the holster. (Barring immediate threats to life and limb of course.) Unfortunately, this sort of policy fails to account for those firearms that are routinely carried for self defense, which the owner normally has no intention of unholstering for any reason short of dire need. Such a policy also tends to promote the unsafe practice of unnecessary gun handling, usually without providing a specific safe unloading/reloading area.

We believe that the safest possible place for any defensive firearm is securely within it's holster, with as little unnecessary public handling as possible. And the safest, best policy (also the one that is least compromising of everyone's rights) is one which recognizes the difference between firearms carried "for emergency use only," and those which the owner is trying to sell, repair, buy accessories for, or which, for any other reason, must be handled in the store. Consider a policy which allows choice, "Firearms Must Remain in Holster, Or Must be Unloaded with Actions Open." As an example, this sort of policy has been successfully implemented by several gunshops in South Carolina (among a few others). We believe this sort of policy is superior compared to a blanket declaration of "No Loaded Firearms."

Please feel free to call us if you have any questions regarding our organization or if we may be of any assistance.

Attention!

**ALL Loaded Firearms  
Must Remain in  
Holster!**

If you are going to handle a firearm in this store for any reason, please unload it and open the action before entering. Please check in firearms for repair or servicing.

Thank You.



"If you see a cute little house with a manicured lawn with daisies in the yard, that's easy pickings. If you see a house with grass three feet high in front, a dog leash hanging from the clothes line, and car engine swinging in the tree, you know there's a gun in that house."

--Jeff Foxworthy.

### More E-Mail:

I received your newsletter in the snail mail. Looks good. Please place me on your E-mail list.

I am a CWP holder. Got my license after I was attacked twice in the first year after having my left arm amputated. Never again.

God bless us with peace and liberty.

# GRSC Articles

## Legislative Update

By Rob Butler

These bills are currently in the SC legislature for consideration:

**H3196** - A firearms and gun owner registration bill. I believe this bill is truly bad; it would create a state registry of guns and gun owners. It would require gun owners to report the transfer of all firearms to the state so as to keep the registry current. It does this under the guise of ballistic testing of all new firearms. As you may recall this has been offered before. The way it works is that for every firearm sold the dealer would be obligated to test fire the firearm and retrieve the fired bullet to send to SLED for inclusion in a database linking the bullet to the firearm and purchaser. It's firearms registration with a new twist.

**H3142 & S147** - Bills to give law enforcement and retired law enforcement officers special privileges with respect to carrying firearms. In my opinion these too are bad bills. Any law that creates two classes of people, one being elite government officials and the other mere peasants working to pay taxes to the state, is wrong. Police officers are no better than the citizens who pay their salaries. If police officers do not like the current ridiculous restrictions of a CWP, then let's work together to get rid of those restrictions for all honest law abiding citizens, not just them. Any argument that it is important to have armed off duty and retired law enforcement officers everywhere in the community is made an even better argument when used to include all honest law abiding citizens because there are more of us than there are of them.

**H3137 & S208** - Bills to restrict possession of weapons around schools. These bills would change the law from prohibiting weapons on your person around elementary and secondary schools to prohibiting weapons around elementary, secondary, and post secondary schools period. This bill would make criminals out of every mom who drives her children to school with a gun in the glove box. This bill will make it a crime to drive to a night school class with a gun in your glove box or to drive to a night school class and leave your

concealed weapon in your vehicle, which are now both legal to do. I believe these are bad bills because they further infringe our 2nd Amendment rights and do nothing to improve safety.

**S43** - Another trigger lock bill. Would impose prison terms of up to three years and/or fines up to \$2,000.00. We all know the evils of trigger lock bills.

**H3380** - Another trigger lock bill. Would impose prison terms of up to one year and/or fines up to \$1,000.00. We all know the evils of trigger lock bills.

**H3128** - A bill to stop the discharge of firearms within one-half mile radius of a school. I believe this is another bad bill. How can a person know if they are within one-half mile of any school? I doubt many people know my home is a private school because we home school our children. To make felons of anyone who discharges a firearm "too" close to my home is wrong, unless they are shooting at my home, and there are already laws against shooting at my home.

**S388** - Requires health care professionals and employees to report all gunshot wounds to the police.

Editors Note: Grass Roots South Carolina is monitoring these bills and will report to you any need to activate against bills

which infringe on your right to carry. To that end, we are building an e-mail alert registry, fax alert registry, and telephone call tree. If you want to make sure you are on our alerts registry drop us a line advising us how we can best notify you in cases where your input is needed with legislative efforts.



Would You Post Your Property Like This?

Warning!  
There Are  
NO GUNS  
in This House

Please Do Not Enter With  
Criminal Intent, or You Will  
Be Reported to the Police.

We doubt it...and most gun-control advocates wouldn't either! But isn't this just what merchants in your hometown are doing when they post against law-abiding citizens with CWP? Demand they stop putting you at risk by guaranteeing criminals a safe haven!  
Found on the Internet↓



## GRSC Articles

### Some thoughts on Revolver or SemiAuto?

By Ed Kelleher

I like working tables at gun shows and talking to people about guns. Here are some thoughts on the revolver vs. semiauto question. It's not a definitive study, but rather it's what I say to people who don't yet own a handgun, but are looking for one for personal defense. You might not agree with what I say. That's fine. These are just some points you may not have considered.

Often a young couple will be browsing along and stop to look at the handguns. She'll pick up the little Browning .25 auto and say something like, "it's cute." He'll pick up the 1911 .45 ACP and say something like, "this thing'll tear your arm off, no matter which end you're on." There are lots of people who'd agree with either or both of them (the Baby Browning is sort of cute...). But, neither of these guns are especially appropriate as a first gun.

If that's the situation (they don't own a gun but are looking for one) I want to encourage them, but I don't have a lot of time. I don't want to overload them with a bunch of facts, figures and opinion and discourage them. I want to get a few points across so they can make a reasonably good decision about buying a handgun for personal defense. Or, at least decide it's a matter they need to study further.

I'll show them a semi auto and explain that it has a magazine that is loaded with cartridges. The magazine is inserted into the gun and the slide has to be pulled all the way back and let go, thus chambering a round - all the while keeping the gun pointed in a safe direction. Then I'll explain that some guns have a safety or decocker they might have to manipulate. I don't show them the Glocks or the DAO AMT Backup 45's.

Next I'll show them a revolver (double action type). I'll explain that the cylinder is swung out, 5 or 6 cartridges are loaded into it, and then the cylinder is closed - all the while keeping the gun pointed in a safe direction. Usually at that point they'll say, "Well, that's simple enough." And it is. I tell them that's why I

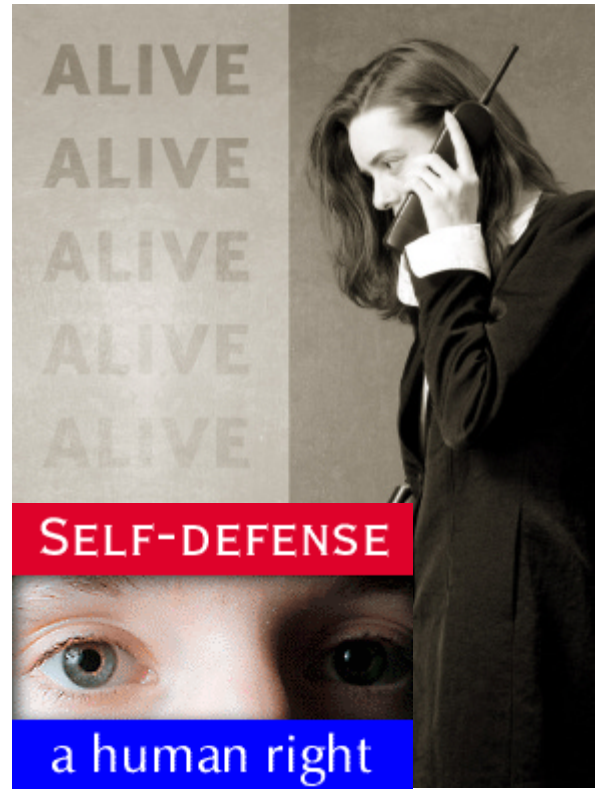
recommend a revolver over a semiauto - it's simpler and more familiar to people. In trained hands, against multiple assailants, the semiauto can't be beat. But, the revolver has some big advantages.

So I tell them a little story. "Imagine you're at home with this semiauto. Somebody's breaking in. Your kids are asleep in the next room and your husband is out of town. You get your semiauto, turn the lights on and confront some guy in the hallway. He sees you, all excited, screaming to the kids to stay put, and he wonders, 'does she have a magazine in it?; is there a round chambered?; does she have the safety off?' and seeing how awkwardly you're holding it (it's sorta big), he feels lucky and lunges at you.

Well, several things can happen at this point, none of them good. 1) You shoot the guy. You had gone to the range and practiced how to use the gun and did everything right. Hopefully, he stops. But, maybe he doesn't - bad hit or ineffective ammo. So you shoot some more. Maybe he stops, maybe you miss and a round or two goes into the kid's room. Or, 2) you *didn't* practice and messed up one of the above steps, and the guy gets the gun away from you. Well, *none* of this is good. At best, the guy is down, bleeding on your carpet, seriously injured or dead, the kids are hysterical and you aren't any better. And now you're going to have to deal with the police, and you better not say the wrong thing. You might have to get a lawyer. At worst, well it's not worth thinking about."

Then I'll tell them, "Imagine a different scene. Instead of the semiauto you have a revolver. You get it and confront the guy, but now he sees 4 lead bullets staring at him. They look pretty big. He knows all the woman has to do is pull the trigger and he's shot. He puts his hands up, backs off and leaves. That's a much better ending. You still have the hyperventilation and police to deal with.

But you and your kids are safe, you won't have to deal with a lawyer, and you won't have to get your carpet replaced. And most of all you won't be bothered sometimes, at night, with the thought that



you hurt or killed another human being. Lord help the guy that messes with a woman's kids. She can be a savage, but later she might have difficulty in dealing with that."

At that point I'll recommend the revolver, usually the 5 shot, 3.5", .44 Special Rossi, or a 4" .357 Magnum. It's just something to consider.



Gun bans don't disarm criminals, gun bans attract them.

Walter Mondale, U.S.  
Ambassador to Japan  
April 20, 1994



## GRSC Featured Shooting Clubs and Organization

### **Competitive Rifle Shooting in SC Palmetto State Marksman's Association P.O. Box 706 Lexington, SC 29072**

How long has it been since you shot a M1 Garand, an M-14, or an M-16? You may have heard that there are still programs which enable the participant in competitive rifle sports to obtain, at reduced costs, an M1 Garand for use in furthering their marksmanship skills. Palmetto State Marksman's Association (PSMA) is South Carolina's High Power Rifle Club and actively seeks new members to come enjoy the thrill of rifle marksmanship. PSMA is affiliated with the National Rifle Association (NRA) and the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP.) Monthly High Power Rifle matches are held at Ft. Jackson, SC and Ft. Gordon, GA.

Instruction and loaner rifles are available for new shooters as well as Garand Clinics (3-4 per year) for those who wish to qualify for the CMP's Garand purchase program. Matches start at 9:00 AM and visitors are welcome. Eye and hearing protection is required.

Palmetto State Marksman's Association is especially interested in developing junior shooters, between the ages of 14 - 19. If you are looking for an exciting sport to introduce your child to and want to spend some quality time coaching we especially want to hear from you. Juniors qualify for club ammo and loaner rifles during practice and matches. PSMA also sponsors junior shooters through the Boy Scout *Rifle Shooting* merit badge program and the Lexington High School's Junior Air Force ROTC program.

### **The Fun of Competitive Rifle Shooting!**

Shooting is done from 200 yards (standing slow-fire and sitting rapid-fire), 300 yards (prone rapid-fire), and 600 yards (prone slow-fire). Rifles are those of military issue or NRA Match rifles. All shooting is done with metallic sights (usually peep style). Additionally, 1000-yard matches with any sight/any rifle are held throughout the year. This offers the

hunter an opportunity to test his/her skills at extreme distance.

Membership is open to the public with current dues set at \$50 annually. Membership is not required to shoot at any of our scheduled matches but does qualify the shooter for reduced match fees. In addition, membership benefits include a monthly newsletter, and allow you to purchase parts, ammunition, etc. from the CMP. PSMA does not discriminate by Sex, Race, Religion, or Nationality. If you are a safe shooter wanting to develop rifle marksmanship skills or introduce your youngster to the sport of high power rifle marksmanship you are welcome.

PSMA is a statewide organization dedicated to the development of Service Rifle and high power Match Rifle marksmanship. Club dues pay for range materials, upkeep, and improvements, monthly newsletter publication, supplies for the Junior shooters, and support for team members that participate in the annual NRA/CMP National Matches in Port Clinton, Ohio (Camp Perry).

Visitors are welcome at matches. Even if you'd just like to watch a High Power Match you are welcome to come out and see how the sport is played. Our next scheduled matches are:

Fort Gordon, GA, Range 4  
March 27,28 9:00 am

Fort Jackson, SC Range 11  
Feb 20,21 9:00 am  
March 20,21 9:00 am

### **Visit the range on one of our match days!**

For more information contact PSMA at the address above or call Neil Frenzl, President 803-442-9397 or Charlie Robinette, Vice President 803-359-3698.

PSMA Trivia Question: Who is the current Marine Corp Top Service Rifle Shooter? Answer: Sgt. Julia Watson



**Support Those  
Who Support You!**

## **Welcome Back! The Following Merchants Have REMOVED Signs Which Discourage Law Abiding CWP Holders from Entering Their Stores!**

*Piggy Wiggly of Chesterfield*

*Gloriosa Florists*

*Hiller Hardware*

*Ace Parker Tires of Sumter*

*Camden Hot Spot Convenience*

*Office Max - All Locations*

*Special Effects Hair Salon*

*System Plus Computers*

*Blythewood Feed and Hardware*

*McDuffie's Home Furnishings*

*Lowe's Hardware - All Locations*

*Rush's Restaurants*

*Little Pigs Barbecue*

*Thyme Out Exxon*

*Greenville Carmike Cinemas*

*If It's Paper*

*Denny's Restaurants*

*Burlington Coat Factory*

*Collins Jewelry*

*Wal-Mart #2214 in Columbia*

*Lee's Grocery*

*Spann's Store*

*Becknell Cleaners*

*Camden Gas and Oil*

*Granger in Columbia*

*Food Lion of Ravenel*

*Ed's Paint Center*

*Domino's Pizza on Two Notch*

## GRSC Feature Article of the Month

### America's Cultural War

By Charlton Heston

Remarks delivered at The Claremont  
Institute's Constitution Day Event  
Universal City, CA  
September 17, 1998

Thank you for that very kind introduction. Some day I'll show up at one of these events in a chariot just to live up to your expectations. But only if some of you guys will volunteer to clean up after the horses. After all, you've been cleaning up after the Democrats for a long time.

I remember my son, when he was five, explaining to his kindergarten class what his father did for a living. "My Daddy," he said, "pretends to be people." There have been quite a few of them. Prophets from the Old and New Testaments, a couple of Christian saints, generals of various nationalities and different cultures, several kings, three American presidents, a French cardinal, and two geniuses, including Michelangelo. If you want the ceiling repainted I'll do my best. I don't mean to boast, please understand. It's just that there always seems to be a lot of different fellows up here, and I'm not sure which one of them gets to talk.

Thinking about our visit today it struck me; If my Creator endowed me with a talent to entertain you, to connect you somehow with the hearts and minds of these great men, then I want to use that same gift now, to reconnect you with a great purpose, a compass for what is right that already lives in your heart.

Dedicating the memorial at Gettysburg more than a century ago, Abraham Lincoln said of America, "We are now engaged in a great Civil War, testing whether this nation or any nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure." Lincoln was right. Friends, let me tell you: you are engaged again in a great Civil War, a cultural war that's about to hijack your birthright. And I fear that you no longer trust the pulsing life blood inside you that made this country rise from mud and valor into the miracle that it still is.

Let me back up here. About a year ago I became President of the National Rifle Association, which defines and protects the right to keep and bear

arms. I ran for office, I was elected, and now I serve; I serve as a moving target for the media who've called me everything from "ridiculous" and "duped" to a "brain-injured, senile, crazy old man." I know, I'm pretty old, but I sure Lord ain't senile.

Standing in the crosshairs of those aiming to shoot down our Second Amendment freedom, I've realized that firearms are not the only issue. I'm not the only target. It's much, much bigger than that. I've come to realize that a cultural war is indeed raging across our land, storming our values, assaulting our freedoms, killing our self-confidence in who we are and what we believe.

How many of you here own a gun?

How many own a bunch of guns?

I wonder, how many of you own guns but choose not to raise your hand? How many almost revealed your conviction about a constitutional right, but then thought better of it? Then you are a victim of the cultural war. You're a casualty of the cultural battle being waged against the traditional American freedom of beliefs and ideas.

Now maybe, you don't care much one way or the other about owning a gun. But I could have asked for a show of hands of Pentecostal Christians, or pro-lifers, or right-to-workers, or Promise Keepers, or school voucherers, and the result would be the same. Would you raise your hand if Dan Rather were in the back of the room with a film crew?

You have been assaulted and robbed of the courage of your own convictions. Your pride in who you are, and what you believe, has been ridiculed, ransacked, and plundered. It may be a war without bullet or bloodshed, but there is just as much liberty lost: You and your country are less free. And you are not inconsequential people! You in this room, are respected, many of you are powerful, yet you are shamed into silence! So what other beliefs in your heart will you disavow with your hand?

Rank-and-file Americans wake up every morning increasingly

bewildered and confused at why their views make them lesser citizens. After enough breakfast-table TV promos hyping tattooed sex slaves on the next Jerry Springer Show, enough gun-glutted movies and tabloid talk shows, enough revisionist history books and prime-time ridicule of religion, enough of the TV news anchor who cocks her head, clucks her tongue and sighs about guns causing crime, and finally the message begins to get through.

Heaven help the God-fearing, law-abiding, Caucasian, middle class, Protestant, or, even worse, evangelical Christian, Midwest or southern or, even worse, rural, apparently straight, or even worse, admitted heterosexual, gun-owning, or even worse, NRA-card-carrying, average working stiff, or even worst of all, a male working stiff. Because then, not only don't you count, you're a downright obstacle to social progress, pal. Your tax dollars may be just as green as you hand them over, but your voice better be quiet. Your opinion is less enlightened, your media access is silenced, and frankly mister, you need to wake up, wise up, and learn a little something about your new America, and meantime, why don't you just sit down and shut up!

That's why you didn't raise your hand. That's how cultural war works. And we are losing.

That's why I formed ARENA PAC, my own political action committee, and that's why, though I'm physically and financially comfortable, and have a wonderful family and grandchildren I cherish, between films I go on the road catching red-eye flights, speaking at rallies in Seattle and eating pancakes in Peoria, rubber chicken in Des Moines. Yes, indeed, Chuck Heston can find less strenuous and more glamorous things to do with his time than stump for conservative candidates out there in Anytown, U.S.A., but it's a job I can do better than most, because most can't.

You don't see many other Hollywood luminaries speaking out for conservative causes, do you? It's not because there aren't any. It's because they won't take the heat. They dare not speak up for fear of ABC or CBS or CNN and worst of all, the IRS.



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Atlas Transmission Mr. Jerry McCoy, Owner, 301 W. Liberty St., Sumter 29150  
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Piggly Wiggly 1620 Highmarket Street (843) 546-5445  
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Tomlinson's Dept. Store 806 Front Street, 843-546-7571  
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## Gun-Lock Proposal Bound to Misfire

By John R. Lott Jr.

Due to last month's shooting at the U.S. Capitol, some members of Congress are trying to revive gun-control proposals that were overwhelmingly defeated just two weeks ago. Yet how new federal laws requiring gun locks or Sen. Dick Durbin's (D-Ill.) bill making parents criminally liable for gun use by children under 18 years of age would have prevented the tragedy on Capitol Hill is not explained. No gun lock would have stopped the alleged killer, 41-year-old Rusty Weston Jr. from firing his gun. Unfortunately, despite the obvious feel-good appeal of gun-lock rules, they are more likely to cost lives than to save them.

To understand why, consider how many accidental gun deaths occur in the U.S.: In 1996, there were 1,400 such deaths, and 200 of those involved children under 15. In comparison, 2,900 children died in motor-vehicle crashes, 950 children drowned and more than 1,000 children died from residential fires. Hundreds more children die in bicycle accidents each year than die from all types of firearm accidents. For children under age 5, cigarette lighters kill five times as many as die from all accidental gunshots (150 versus 30). Yet when was the last time that a child's death from a bicycle or cigarette lighter received national news coverage?

As the father of four young children, it is difficult for me to imagine losing one of them for any reason. But it is puzzling why accidental gun deaths of young children get so much more coverage than other threats that pose even greater dangers to our children. With around 80 million people owning a total of 200 million to 240 million guns, the vast majority of gun owners must be fairly careful or such gun accidents would be much more frequent.

It's hardly consoling that accidents involving such common home fixtures as swimming pools and space heaters are more lethal than guns. Yet people understand that there are trade-offs in life and that the very rules that seek to save lives can result in more deaths. Banning swimming pools would help prevent drowning, for example, but if fewer people exercised, life spans would be shortened. Heaters may start fires, but

they also keep people from getting sick or from freezing to death. So whether we want to allow pools or space heaters depends not only on whether some people may be harmed by them, but also on whether more people are helped than hurt.

Similar trade-offs exist for gun locks. Mechanical locks that fit either into a gun's barrel or over its trigger require the gun to be unloaded, and may prevent a few children's deaths. But locked, unloaded guns offer far less protection from intruders, and so requiring locks would likely greatly increase deaths resulting from crime. Under the proposed



rules, the costs of gun locks would fall far more heavily on law-abiding citizens than on criminals--decreasing the numbers of innocent people who could use guns to protect themselves. So the debate over gun locks should be how many of the 200 accidental child deaths would be avoided versus how much such rules will reduce people's ability to defend themselves.

Unfortunately, despite the best of intentions, safety rules do not always increase safety. President Clinton has argued many times that "we protect aspirin bottles in this country better than we protect guns from accidents by children." However, Harvard economist W. Kip Viscusi has shown that child-resistant bottle caps have resulted in "3,500 additional poisonings of children under age 5 annually from (aspirin-related drugs) . . . (as) consumers have been lulled into a less safety-conscious mode of behavior by the existence of safety caps." If Clinton were aware of such research, he surely wouldn't refer to aspirin bottles when telling us how to deal with guns.

Other research shows that guns clearly deter criminals. Polls by the Los Angeles Times, Gallup and Peter Hart Research Associates show that there are at least 760,000, and possibly as many as 3.6 million, defensive uses of guns per year. In 98 percent of the cases, such polls

show, people simply brandish the weapon to stop an attack.

In my book examining gun ownership rates across states, I found that higher gun ownership rates are associated with dramatically lower crime rates. Further, it is the poorest people in the most crime-prone areas who benefit most from gun ownership. Safety rules that raise the costs of gun purchases would reduce gun ownership and hit these people the hardest.

So if gun locks are unlikely to save lives, indeed if they are likely to cost lives, then who would benefit from them? Answer: plaintiffs' lawyers.

The General Accounting Office reported in 1991 that mechanical safety locks are unreliable in preventing children over 6 years of age from using a gun. Indeed gun locks or gun safes were unsuccessfully employed in four of the five school shootings over the past year. Will manufacturers meet the requirements of proposed laws if their products carry disclaimers saying the gun locks may not work? Without such a disclaimer, imagine the lawsuits manufacturers would face for supplying locks that they know would fail to guarantee protection. Research into similar liability involving children's vaccines suggests that such liability account for an amazing 96 percent of the price of a product.

Proposals to make parents criminally liable for their children's using guns have their own problems, but they raise broader issues of what is motivating the new rules. If holding parents criminally liable is such a good idea, why apply it to only one type of crime committed by children?

Laws frequently have unintended consequences. Fortunately, it's not too late to stop the new gun "safety" laws before they produce the same headaches--and much worse--that the aspirin-bottle rules have caused.

John Lott Jr., the John M. Olin law and economics fellow at the University of Chicago School of Law, is the author of "More Guns, Less Crime." This article initially appeared in the Chicago Tribune on August 6, 1998.

## GRSC Feature Article of the Month

Cultural war saps the strength of our country because the personal price is simply too high to stand up for what you believe in. Today, speaking with the courage of your conviction can be so costly, the price of principle so great, that legislators won't lead, so citizens can't follow, and so there is no Army to fight back. That's cultural warfare.

For instance: It's plain that our Constitution guarantees law-abiding citizens the right to own firearms. But if I stand up and say so, why does the media assault me with such slashing derision?

Because Bill Clinton's cultural warriors want a penitential cleaning of all firearms. Millions of lawful gun owners must feel guilty for the crimes of others and seek absolution by surrendering their guns. That's what has already happened in England and Australia. Lines of submissive citizens, threatened with imprisonment, are bitterly surrendering family heirlooms, guns that won their freedom, to the blast furnace. If that fact doesn't unsettle you, then you are already anesthetized; you are a ready victim of the cultural war.

So how do we get out of this mess? Moses led his people through the wilderness, but he never made it to the Promised Land, not even when I played him. But he did do his job; he pointed his people in the right direction.

Unlike the Ten Commandments, the Bill of Rights wasn't cut into stone tablets. But the text surely has that same righteous feel to it. It is as if you can sense the unseen hand of the almighty God guiding those rebellious old white guys, sweating out the birth of a nation. Jefferson, Adams, Paine, they pointed the way and we made it to this promised land, the one our immigrant ancestors dreamed of, the land Abe Lincoln called, "Man's last, best hope on earth."

Look at me. Where else but in America could a skinny country boy named Charlton work his way out of the Michigan north woods and find a life that makes a difference? My country put the gift of freedom in my hands and said, "Here kid, see what

you can do with this." That is why I so deeply love this great nation, and the Constitution that defines it.

Just about everything good about me--who I am and what I've done--you can trace back to some smoking muskets and a radical Declaration of Independence by those ragtag rebels. Wearing threadbare coats and marching on bleeding feet, they defeated the finest army assembled in that century and they gave the world hope. Within them flowed an undertow of personal freedom; a relentless sense of what is right, so irresistibly strong that they simply could not abandon it.

But today's cultural warriors are trying. They're revising and rewriting these truths, trying to yank our Bill of Rights right out from under us.

They are trading traditions that are right for trends that tease us with more immediate reward. Self-gratification has displaced honor, greed has erased good taste, the desire of the moment has undermined basic morality. We are fast becoming a self-serving, boorish, and arrogant people given to cultural binges, quick to dismiss anything of substance that stands in the way of our undisciplined desires.

That is the culturally bereft America we see and hear in our movies, television, popular music, even the prime time news hour.

I should have known what to expect when the earth shoe generation skipped into the White House with a paisley suitcase full of social experiments and revisionist history. Bill and Hillary are the product of a cultural revolution that had absolutely nothing whatsoever to do with the power of flowers. It was an adolescent uprising bent on burning bridges, not building them.

Our President's recent troubles are dramatic proof that cultural war is not a clash over the facts, or even between philosophies. It is a clash between the principled, and the unprincipled.

I am not talking about his behavior. I am talking about people who cannot comprehend moral absolutes, and a country that seems to abide it. Here we are again, trapped in the silly spectacle

of having our values measured hourly by the polls, as if the definition of the "right thing" changed like a national mood ring.

"What do you think of the President? Well, wait, after his apology, now how do you feel? Oh, wait, after the White House spin, how do you feel? But wait, after the First Lady's interview, now how do you feel?" Behavior is judged and re-judged based not upon what is right, but upon what feels right, and to whom, at the moment.

This is how cultural warriors use sexual crime to destroy their enemies. Sex shatters the career of a senior enlisted man, a sexual infraction wrecks the life of a corporate executive, and sexual gossip impugns the integrity of a Supreme Court nominee. Yet with the right spin by the right doctor, others are forgiven. Somewhere in this rancid mess we fight to find principle our children can understand.

But Americans should not have to go to war every morning for their values. They already go to war for their families. They fight to hold down a job, raise responsible kids, make their payments, keep gas in the car, put food on the table and clothes on their backs, and still save a little to live their final days in dignity.

They prefer the America they built, where you could pray without feeling naive, love without being kinky, sing without profanity, be white without feeling guilty, own a gun without shame, and raise your hand without apology. They are the men and women who long for you to get some guts, stand on principle, and lead them to victory in this cultural war. They are sick and tired of national social policy that originates on Oprah, and they are ready for you to pull the plug.

Now if this all sounds a little Mosaic, my punchline is as elementary as the Golden Rule. There is only one way to win a cultural war: Do the right thing! Triumph belongs to those who arm themselves with pride in who they are and what they believe, and then do the right thing.

And you know what? Everybody already knows what that is. You, and I, we know the right thing. President

## GRSC Feature Article of the Month

Clinton, Madonna, Louis Farrakhan, even Marilyn Manson, we all know. It's easy. You say wait a minute, you take a long look in the mirror, then into the eyes of your kids, or grandkids, and you'll know what's right.

I would like to reconnect you with that compass for what is right, that already lives in you. To unleash its power, you need only re-arm yourself with the raw courage of your convictions.

Our ancestors were armed with pride, and bequeathed it to us. I can prove it. If you want to feel the warm breath of freedom upon your neck, if you want to touch the proud pulse of liberty that beat in our Founding Fathers in its purest form, you can do so through the majesty of the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms.

Because there, in that wooden stock and blued steel, is what gives the most common of common men the most uncommon of freedoms. When ordinary hands are free to own this extraordinary, symbolic tool standing for the full measure of human dignity and liberty, that is as good as it gets.

It does not matter whether its purpose is to defend our shores or your front door, whether the gun is a rite of passage for a young man or a tool of survival for a young woman, whether it brings meat for the table or trophies for the shelf. Without respect to age, or gender, or race, or class, the Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms connects us all with all that is right.

And no amount of oppression, no FBI, no IRS, no big government, no social engineers, no matter what and no matter who, they cannot cleave the genes we share with our Founding Fathers.

Remember: they promised us life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. They did not promise us happiness, only the chance to chase it. And being politically correct is not the way to get there. If America believed in political correctness, we would still be King George's boys, subjects enslaved to the British crown. Please, seek to be politically competent, yes, politically confident and politically courageous, yes, but never politically correct.

Don't run for cover when the cultural cannons roar. Remember who you are and what you believe, and then raise your hand, stand up, and speak out. Don't be shamed or startled into lockstep conformity.

Defeat the criminals and their apologists, oust the biased and bigoted, endure the undisciplined and unprincipled. But disavow the self-appointed social puppeteers whose relentless arrogance fuels this vicious war against so much we hold so dear. Do not yield; do not divide; do not call truce. It is your duty to muster with pride and win this cultural war.

As leaders you must do what Abraham Lincoln did, confronted with a perverse version of what America was meant to be: Do the right thing. As Mr. Lincoln said, "With firmness in the right, as God gives us to see right, let us finish the work we are in, and then we shall save our country."

I believe that says it all. Thanks. It has been a pleasure.

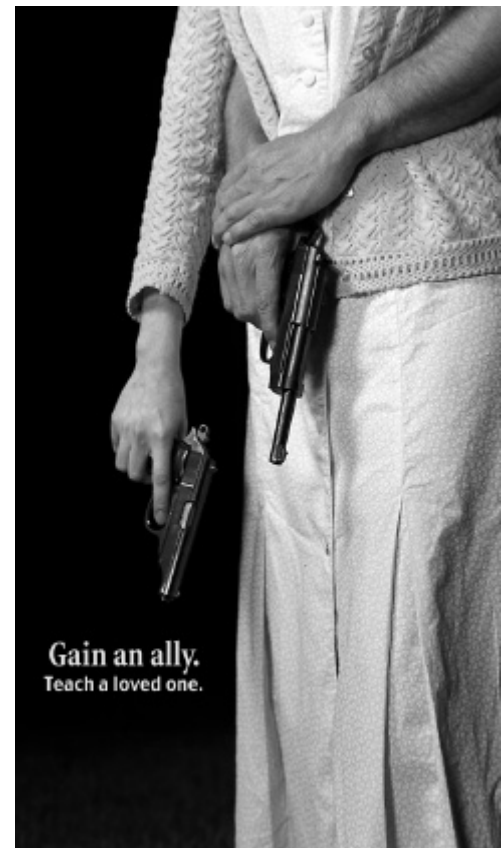
Other Second Amendment articles can be found at The Claremont Institute Online: <http://www.claremont.org>

### **Facts You Can Use** **Accidental Firearms-Related Deaths Compared to Other Causes of Accidental Death (1997)**

1. Motorvehicles: 43,200 deaths
  2. Falls: 14,900 deaths
  3. Poisoning by solids or liquids: 8,600 deaths
  4. Drowning: 4,000 deaths
  5. Fires, burns and related deaths: 3,700 deaths
  6. Suffocation by swallowing object: 3,300 deaths
  7. Firearms-related: 1,500 deaths
  8. Poisoning by gases and vapors: 700 deaths
  9. All other causes (including medical "misadventures"): 13,900
- Total deaths: 93,800  
(Source: National Safety Council's 1998 Accident Facts)

### **Firearm Use by Civilians to Deter Crime**

By carefully examining facts and statistics from the Department of



Justice, the F.B.I. and other law enforcement agencies, Prof. Gary Kleck from the School of Criminology, Florida State University, discovered Americans use firearms to prevent crimes approximately 1 to 1.5 million times per year. These are the very cases Kellermann chose to ignore. Had Kellermann considered these facts, he would have had to conclude a firearm in the home makes a family safer.

Prof. Kleck also discovered that robbery victims who defended themselves with a gun suffered lower rates of injury than did those who resisted without a gun, or even those who did not resist at all and instead complied with the violent criminal's demands. In short, Prof. Kleck concluded the private ownership of firearms deters criminal behavior. (Source: "Crime Control Through the Private Use of Armed Force" by Gary Kleck)



# Framing the Terms

## By Skip Wayland

Like many of you, I get vexed about how we -- those who support our Nation's Constitution, and the ideas upon which it was founded -- constantly appear to be the recipients of slanderous remarks from elitists who believe they have attained Nirvana and further believe that we are imbeciles for not following their leadership. Our ideas are continually maligned by the innuendo and direct aspersions of these people. They are very effective at using catchy labels to frame our position while we have simply tried to counter their wild, irresponsible accusations with rational arguments leading to well-deliberated conclusions.

In spite of our attempts to provide rationality to the issues we many times appear to be losing the battle for the hearts and minds of Middle America because our opponents -- with media support -- persist in using sound bites that provoke a visceral effect against our cause. Our opponents don't talk in terms of the academia or the judiciary when they malign us to the public, but we sometimes respond in that manner in our own defense, and when we do we are not understood by the vast majority of people in this nation who have a problem reading the Sunday comics. We find ourselves attempting to defend our position in an argument where the terms and definitions have been outlined by our opponents in feeling, not logic.

Therefore a difficult task is made even more arduous because we allow ourselves to be placed in a position of using terms whose definition has been delineated by our adversary. We end up defending our doctrine against the terms defined by our antagonists rather than conveying our beliefs on the argument itself. This happens over and over again and yet we continue to allow ourselves to be brought into discussions wherein the language used is terms defined by the opposition. The following are some of the terms to which I refer:

- Saturday Night Special
- Cop Killer Bullets
- Assault Weapons
- Weapons Of Mass Destruction
- Designed Only For Killing People
- Sniper Rifle
- High Capacity Ammunition Feeding Systems
- Hair Trigger

- Easily Accessible Firearms
- Unregistered Firearm
- Dum Dum Bullets
- No Sporting Purpose

...and a bunch more that slip my mind at this point.

As you read down that list it is very likely that each of those terms brought some image to your mind or evoked some gut reaction in you at some level. Why?? Why the reaction?? Some of those terms bring forth images that define a natural reaction against the item; like "Cop Killer Bullets." Other terms that we may have used in everyday language have been so skewed in their meaning over the years by our opponents that they now have a different meaning than they originally had, like "Saturday Night Special", which I always thought was a pretty good weekend price on beer and pizza.

The point is that we, as a group who support the Constitution and firearms ownership as defined by our Founders, must start defining the terms of the debate from our perspective. We must take the battle to our adversaries using terms that we define; terms that put them on the defensive. We must start paying attention to how we phrase things, and especially make efforts to define terms that bring about the desired visceral effect in people who are open to impression on these issues and get most of their news in broadcast media sound bites.

Not only must we define these terms, we also must come up with some mechanism to get these terms into the national mainstream. This is where our opponents do so well. They pick up on these little catch phrases and pass them around among themselves, and then start getting them into media sound bites, and before you know it everyone is using their terms - including us!!

This situation must be reversed. We must all strive, by whatever means we have available, to put those who would deprive us of our liberties into a defensive posture that requires them to explain their position with regard to our ideas and terms. Yes, we must continue to offer cogent arguments that support our position. We have, thank goodness, more and more very capable people who continue to join our camp on these issues. We must always continue to bring good, dedicated people into this conflict on our side. We must, however, strive to get all of those who support us to not only continue in the vein they are currently in but also to start

thinking about the terms they use in framing their arguments. If the terms we use can be sharpened to paint a mental picture that elicits a positive portrayal of our position, or a negative portrayal of our opponent's position, then we can start to present arguments that not only hold up in courts of law, but also the court of public opinion. I, for one, think it is worth a try.

We can make it work by passing around ideas. There are a lot of us who are very sharp people who will, hopefully, start using our individual and collective wits to outwit the opposition on a very basic and effective level. But we need some mechanism to get this into the legal, legislative, and medical communities, the news media, and to pass this information around the Nation quickly so the terms that are introduced can get wide spread dissemination. The idea is to pass ideas, and not necessarily for anyone in particular to say that this idea is good and that one is bad. Perhaps a consensus on some terms can be reached at some level. I don't know. This is just an idea I have. I hope someone out there in cyberspace agrees that it is a good one and will pick up the ball and run with it. Perhaps someone out there is willing to be the repository, collection, and dissemination point for this effort.

Organizations that are experienced in the battle for our rights have the know-how and the wherewithal to put this together on a national level and make it work. There is nothing wrong with the major organizations working to accomplish their own objectives, BUT... on this one point of "Framing The Terms" all of the major, and minor, associates on our side of this debate must achieve a unified front if this effort is to have any effect whatsoever. The NRA, GOA, LEAA, LSAS, JPFO, etc..etc..etc. must each make a positive step in this effort and start talking with each other regarding the terminology we use. We also need mechanisms to get it to those who can get it into sound bites. I'll be happy to act as the initial point of contact to get it started but someone else is needed to sustain it.

I can offer some suggestions for terms to consider, unfortunately I don't know who first coined many of these. If some of these ideas sound sophomoric to you then get off your duff and come up with some of your own.

1. Always refer to a gun control advocate as a "Victim Disarmament Extremist" or "Predator Advocate" (cont. next page)

2. We should refer to ourselves as being "ProChoice AND ProLife" on the firearms issue. Or take the sting out of it and call yourself a: "Self Defense Advocate"

3. Gun control of ANY nature should be viewed as a "CIVIL RIGHTS ISSUE" in addition to any other manner in which it is addressed.

4. Firearms registration or firearms owner registration touted by the "freedom hating left" should be viewed as "Pre-Confiscation Initiatives"

5. Inexpensive handguns (Saturday Night Specials) are "Economically Viable Protection" or simply "Affordable Protection". Attempts to outlaw inexpensive firearms for defensive use should be viewed as an effort to deprive the less fortunate or economically challenged of their CIVIL RIGHTS because it deprives these people of the most effective means to defend themselves and their families against predators of all kinds.

6. Firearms training is "Life Assurance Training" or maybe "Family Self Defense Training."

7. Concealed carry license can be "Predator Neutralization License" or "Family Life Assurance License" or "Victim Protection Measures" or "Threat Reduction Measures. While we're at it... why do we as a people even tolerate our government licensing us to carry the tool that is most effective in protecting the well-being of ourselves and our families. We should have a Vermont-style right to carry and protect ourselves. Isn't that, in fact, what our Founders intended??? Why do we keep voting in representatives who support "Innocent Victim Disarmament."

8. Expand upon the GOA premise that "Guns Save Lives." They do... We know it... Let's talk about it - IN PUBLIC!! Every pro-gun organization in existence should be on this bandwagon!!! GUNS SAVE LIVES !!!

9. Always refer to the bad guys as "Predators" along with other appropriate pejorative terms like "thieves," "rapists," etc.

10. Firearms owner lists in government possession are: "Round Up Lists" or "Pre-Holocaust Victim Identification Lists."

11. Any government-required fee for firearms licenses, Brady-type checks, etc. should be referred to as a "Another Gun Tax", "Civil Rights Violations," "Firearms Infringement"

12. Charlton Heston (of "Moses" and "people-shouldn't-be-able-to-own-AK-47-type-weapons" fame) FINALLY got it right recently when he referred to Barbara Streisand as the "Hanoi Jane" of the anti-gun movement.

13. Eddy Eagle should become a National Hero. Other similar symbols for firearms safety or freedoms should be developed and/or expanded upon. JPFO has a very good series that should be brought into the mainstream. This information is needed now in our "Youth Propaganda Camps", commonly called public schools. Every pre-puberty kid in the Nation should know who these symbols are and the positive side of what they represent. Our kids are this Nation's future and we continue to allow the fanatical left, victim-disarmament teacher's unions to indoctrinate our children into believing that guns are bad and so are the people who own them.

14. Those in the opposition should be referred to as screwballs, crackpots, extremists, etc. Although I don't normally agree with calling anyone names but it may get mainstream people thinking that we do have a valid point. I, for one, certainly am of the opinion that many of the Hollywood elite, who donate millions to efforts that would negate our Bill of Rights, can and should be referred to as "crackpot elitist extremists."

15. Let's face it... Jim Brady getting shot was a tragedy. An even larger tragedy is that Sara Brady has become quite wealthy from cynical exploitation of his misfortune. Additionally, her efforts have helped build an empire on the bodies of those innocent victims who were denied access to defensive firearms because of Brady checks, mandatory waiting periods, and the defeat of concealed carry legislation that she has been instrumental in effecting. As a community dedicated to restoring and maintaining our liberties how can we give Sara Brady a free pass to continue her "Victim Disarmament" work without calling her to task for it at every opportunity??? She is getting rich making speeches to outlaw our freedoms and yet we seldom see anything in print anywhere that says this is happening. Why?

(QUOTABLE QUOTES: "Our task of creating a socialist America can only succeed when those who would resist us have been totally disarmed." Sara Brady, Chairman, Handgun Control, to Sen. Howard Metzenbaum, "The National Educator," January 1994, Page 3.

16. Gun control legislation is literally: "Job Safety For Criminals" or "The Safe Streets For Criminals Act /Bill /Law / Regulation" We ALL need to get together on this effort. I'm sure that some of the descriptive phrases we glean from this will be worth the effort, both to our cause and to our funny bone. Maybe this epistle will get the ball rolling. Hopefully this will spark some interest in getting the scoreboard numbers up in our favor by establishing a system that offers coordination of "reasonable terms" that can be used within this debate. If everyone takes a few minutes to think about this I'm sure we'll have some terms to use that will gain the initiative and turn the tide. Give this a shot... what have you got to lose?? There is a whole lot to gain. Let me know. And... Will someone please step forward and volunteer to be a coordination point for this effort should it get off the ground. Please feel free to pass this along to anyone who is interested in regaining our freedoms and rights in a lawful, peaceful manner.

### **Proof Positive: Gun Control Increases Violent Crime The Latest Data from Australia**

One year ago gunowners in Australia were forced to surrender 640,381 personal firearms, including semi-automatic .22 rifles and shotguns. The program cost the government over \$500 million. The results are in...a dramatic increase in criminal activity.

After 12 Months, the data show:

- ★Australia-wide, homicides are up 3.2%
- ★Australia-wide, assaults are up 8.6%
- ★Australia-wide, armed-robberies are up 44%
- ★In the state of Victoria, homicides-with-firearms are up 300% (over the previous 25 years, there was a steady decrease in homicides involving firearms. This was dramatically reversed 12 months ago with the imposition of the draconian gun control scheme)
- ★There has also been a dramatic increase in break-ins and assaults of the elderly. . . at the time of the Prime Minister said defense is not a reason to own a firearm."

end



## South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit Instructors Association

### Can I Do That?

by Lon Currey

One of the worst questions any CWP instructor can be asked is; "Can I carry in ...", or, "What do I do if...?". Why is that such a difficult question? Simply because that information is a part of every CWP class we give. It is required by law to be taught to every CWP applicant attending the course. And even though we all know the answer, it is not always so easy to explain.

The law tells us there are a number of places we can not carry our legal concealed weapon. These are: 1. Any law enforcement agency or office; 2. any prison, jail, or detention facility; 3. any court, or magistrates court (except by the judge or magistrate); 4. any meeting of any governing body; 5. any place specifically prohibited by federal law; 6. any school or athletic event not associated with firearms; 7. any school, day school or preschool facility; 8. any premises where alcohol is sold for consumption on those premises; 9. any business which is posted "no concealable firearms allowed", or showing an appropriate sign prohibiting the carrying of a concealed weapon; 10. any church or religious sanctuary, or; 11. any public owned buildings without express permission.

Why then is that question so difficult? Simply because that list does not say it all. If a person is allowed to defend himself, and others, in their place of business does that extend also to any employees of the business? It may, provided the business is not a business which serves alcohol for consumption on the premises. If so it must be the licensed OWNER of the business who carries, not a manager or other employee. How about a medical clinic or doctors office? Again it requires the written approval of the person ultimately responsible for the

building or office and permission must be in writing and given before the occurrence.

One question I'm sure many of you have had deals with two separate issues. "What if I have forgotten I'm carrying, and I encounter a dangerous felony being committed while I am in a no carry area? Am I liable if I don't act? Am I going to lose my permit if I Do act?" These are the kinds of questions it is almost impossible to answer. While the act of stopping a felony with a handgun is a legal and justifiable act, the fact that you HAD the gun is a misdemeanor. The outcome would probably rest upon the discretion of the investigating agency, not the SCCWPIA instructor teaching the class.

As you can see the questions can far exceed the instructor's ability to answer off the cuff. It is impossible to be prepared to answer every question covering every possible situation in every class we teach. It should not make the instructor feel unprepared or inadequate to say honestly, "I don't know!" We recently had a meeting with officials from SLED who when asked certain questions had to say, "Gee, I don't know! ...but I'll find out and get back to you." That is the answer a professional gives when stumped, but remember, you must find the RIGHT answer and get back to the student. After all, they paid you for that answer.



### Who Should I Tell?

By Lon Currey

Many CWP Instructors do not have a system in place for telling their potential students what and when they are teaching gun classes. There are any number of ways you can advertise your services to the community in which you live. The number of methods to advertise is limited only by your imagination and finances. Let's examine just a few.

Those of you who have a great deal of money may want to advertise your services through the national media such as newspapers, radio, and television. While this is a very popular and widely accepted method it is also very expensive and is NOT guaranteed to hit

your target audience. And, of course, those ads have to be renewed continuously to be effective. In this same vein, if you belong to an organization, such as ours, that prints a newsletter you may be able to advertise in it for little or nothing.

You may want to print up your own fliers and go around the malls and parking lots sticking them on the windows of cars. This may get you some business, but it will also gain you some ill will from those who are NOT interested but must now rid themselves of your flier. This is also very time consuming on your part. Of course, if you have one or more friendly gun shop owners in your area they may let you leave fliers on their counters for their interested customers to pick up. Those would certainly be getting into the hands of your target audience. I have found there are only a few gun shops inclined to be this cooperative, due mostly to the numbers of instructors they would have to cater to.

You could do direct mailings. That is you get a list of names and addresses and mail a letter introducing yourself and your services to the addressee. First you must compose the letter, then address the envelopes, seal them, stamp them, and take them to the post office to mail. As I have done this, let me assure you, this is very time consuming and expensive, even if you have a computer. Again, you are spending time and money on a whole lot of people that are not the least bit interested in what you have to offer.

I have found the very BEST advertising to be word of mouth. Nothing sells your program and services like a satisfied customer/student. As most of you know, I do a lot of my teaching through Midlands Technical College. While many of my students come through the catalog the college mails out, at least as many, or more, come from friends and relatives who have taken our course. If you have a reputation of competence and SAFETY, your students will talk you up to their friends and relatives.

As good as it is, word of mouth will not cover all your bases. What else may be available to you? If you are a computer owner/user, the internet is a whole new world of nearly free advertising. Not



# South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit Instructors Association

only is it affordable or completely free, it also targets the exact audience you are looking for. If you use the word "gun" or "firearm", or "Concealed Weapon Training" in your introduction or address (url) you will know those who visit your page are specifically looking for those type services. You may want to start your own web home page which most ISPs (internet service providers) offer free of charge or you may want to advertise on someone else's web page, such as ours, or the NRA's.

If you are interested in having your name, phone number, and the area you train in, published in this newsletter contact me or write GRSC. If you would like that same information placed on our web page, [www.scfirearms.org](http://www.scfirearms.org), notify me or e-mail [lcoble@netside.com](mailto:lcoble@netside.com). If you are computer literate, and you are conducting NRA firearms classes, you can advertise your classes on the NRA web page at [www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org). If you do not own a computer but you would like your NRA classes advertised on their web page, contact me and I will see about getting your information posted to the NRA web page. These are all free services that go with your SCCWPIA membership.



## To Be or Not To Be?

By Lon Currey

There comes a time in every person's life when they begin to exam, and even question, the value of the organizations to which they belong. Usually it comes about because they have experienced changes in their lives that may not compliment the particular organizations they begin to question. The South Carolina Concealed Weapons Instructor Association, the first organization of its kind in the world, is probably one of those. Members often ask themselves, "what am I paying for?" Let me try to answer that question now, both for

members and prospective members.

First off, each new member receives our patch, membership card, and membership certificate that we hope they display with pride. Your membership gives you the right to wear the SCCWPIA hats and jackets, that NO ONE else is entitled to wear. Your membership in SCCWPIA, and the patch you proudly wear, marks you. It marks you as a PROFESSIONAL firearms instructor. An instructor who is dedicated to a higher level of training. An instructor who gives full value for the money received. A person who is dedicated to the principals of the 2nd amendment of the U. S. Constitution. Your membership identifies you as a person who believes every law abiding citizen has the right to defend themselves and their loved ones with the use of deadly force, if necessary. Being a member of SCCWPIA means you are a person who is interested in staying on top of the latest information available in your profession/avocation. It means you are in the top percentage of certified firearms instructors in the entire country.

Your membership gives you the right to receive the GRSC/SCCWPIA quarterly newsletter (I hope it will soon be monthly). I have heard some members comment that our inclusion with GRSC means they don't have to join SCCWPIA any more because they are going to get the newsletter anyway. Not true. Members of SCCWPIA who do not renew their memberships will be dropped from the roster and not receive the quarterly newsletter ... but that is not a reason in and of itself to join or rejoin. The fact that you get free advertising may be though. The fact that you get free internet web space may be. The fact that the newsletter you receive, and can get your name and phone number in, also goes out to over eighteen-thousand concealed carry permit holders may be. The fact that the organization supports you and recommends you to others is of itself reason to belong.

The association has become SLED's primary tool for contact with the instructors. All of the latest information is available, first, through our newsletter. We strive to give each and every instructor all the latest available information and statistics on what is

happening in the world of concealed carry. We point out the problems and the success'. We encourage, we guide, and we assist, in every way possible, our members in their endeavors. I have spent many hours trying to locate the instructor who lives nearest a party who wants to take the CWP course and giving out names and phone numbers to ensure these supporters got the best possible instruction.

If the principles of the association are worthy, you should belong. If you believe yourself to be a professional, you should belong. If you believe in the Second Amendment right to carry, you should belong. If you believe in every Americans fundamental right to protect themselves and their families to the very best of their abilities, you should belong. The value of your membership in the South Carolina Concealed Weapons Instructor Association can not be measured only in dollars and cents, it should be measured more honestly, in pride and sense.



## Teaching Tip:

In previous firearms safety classes, we had problems with instructors who were trying to juggle firearms and lesson plans when teaching the Unloading of different types of firearms. If the instructor didn't follow the lesson plan, they invariably went overtime because they added material that was "beyond scope."

We found an excellent way to team teach Lesson 2 of Home Firearms Safety. One instructor is the "reader" they read (from the textbook) the steps for unloading each firearm while another instructor (the "demonstrator") performs each step after it is read. This allows the reader to stick to the lesson plan and the demonstrator to concentrate on performing the correct technique and being careful of muzzle direction and other safety concerns.

In the last class we taught, the demonstrator got "into character" and began emulating Vanna White (Game show hostess) making sweeping gestures and emphasizing each movement. Hilarity ensued when he operated the bolt on a bolt action rifle with his thumb, index and middle fingers, extending his pinkie finger out to the side.





## South Carolina Concealed Weapons Permit Instructors Association

### Educational Offerings:

There is a NRA Instructor Training Class in five disciplines (Pistol, Personal Protection, Home Firearm Safety, Shotgun and Rifle) scheduled for February 25, 26, 27, and 28 in Florence, SC. Any NRA Certified Firearms Instructor who is not certified in all of these disciplines or anyone wanting to become a certified NRA Firearms Instructor is encouraged to take this course. One of the prerequisites to become a SLED certified CWPT instructor is to be a NRA certified Pistol or Personal Protection Instructor or a Criminal Justice Academy certified firearms instructor. Contact Bill Powell at P.O. Box 5624, Florence, SC 29502, e-mail wjfirst@aol.com or FAX: 843-395-9005 to pre-register or obtain additional information.

Bill Powell

### \*\*\*Announcing\*\*\*

A two-day Defensive Urban Rifle and Shotgun Course for responsible, adult gun owners instructed by John S Farnam, renowned defensive shooting instructor and author of THE STREET-SMART GUN BOOK, THE FARNAM METHOD OF DEFENSIVE HANDGUNNING, and THE FARNAM METHOD OF DEFENSIVE RIFLE AND SHOTGUN SHOOTING.

The Course is scheduled for 27-28 March 1999 (Sat-Sun) and is hosted by The VC Sumner Nuclear Power Station Range. Price is \$400.00. A \$200.00 deposit required when you make your reservation. The balance is due at the beginning of the course.

Contact: Richard O Wright at:  
843 673 0854 or contact:

Defense Training International Inc  
749 S Lemay, Ste A3-337  
Ft Collins, CO 80301  
303 482 2520

You will need a serviceable rifle chambered for .223 em. or larger. We recommend military autoloaders. Detachable magazines are desirable but

not necessary. Iron sights or low-power, forward-mounted scopes are best. High-powered scopes are not suitable to this instruction. A sling is required. In addition, you will also need your defensive handgun and accessories and fifty rounds of ammunition. You will also need hearing and eye protection and a baseball cap. Shatterproof prescription eyeglasses, shooting glasses, or safety glasses will suffice for eye protection. Hearing protection may take the form of earplugs or covers.

We recommend the Colt AR-15 and most of the clones, any Garand, the Springfield Armory M1-A, The Ruger Mini-14 and the Mini-30, the FN/FAL, the Galiel, Soviet and Chinese AK's and SKS's, and most other military rifles. Pistol-caliber carbines are acceptable. Students should be advised that their rifles will see some strenuous, rugged use and may get scratched up a bit. Pretty guns are best left at home. You'll need four hundred rounds of rifle ammunition.

You will also need a defensive shotgun. Twelve gauge is recommended. Twenty gauge is acceptable. Nearly any quality shotgun will do, but we would like you to have a good deal of experience handling a suitable defensive shotgun. I recommend the Remington 870 pump and the 1187 autoloader, the Beretta 1201 autoloader, the Benelli Super 90 autoloader, and the Mossburg 590 pump, all in the law enforcement version. Barrel length should not exceed twenty inches. The Benelli is a little high priced, but the Remington guns, the Beretta, and the Mossburg guns are all very reasonable. We do not recommend the Winchester pump or autoloader or the Ithica pump or autoloader. Your shotgun must have a stock, either fixed or folding. "Stockless" shotguns are utterly useless and often dangerous. You will also need eighty rounds of buckshot and ten rifled slugs. We recommend 00 buckshot in the standard, nine-pellet loading. Federal, Remington, Winchester, and other reputable manufacturers produce this load in great abundance, as it is the standard used by most police departments. Other sizes of buckshot are acceptable, but 00 renders the best performance. We do not recommend any of the "magnum" shotshell loadings, 2 3/4" or 3". The

magnum loadings are very uncomfortable to shoot and offer little benefit in return. We do not recommend birdshot and "reduced-recoil" loadings. You need practice shooting the real thing! All shotguns must have slings.

Instruction will be intense and fast-paced. The course curriculum includes: safe gun handling and preventable firearms accidents, rifle operation, handling, transportation, rifle/pistol transition, and tactical employment. Also included are threat evaluation, risk identification and reduction, multiple targets, lethal threat containment and management, the force continuum, precision shooting, low-light shooting, cover and movement, safely holding suspects at gunpoint, performing under stress, weapon control, close encounters, long-distance encounters, target scanning and quick identification, and the defensive use of the rifle in an urban setting. Classroom subjects will include the latest information on the physio/psychological aspects of lethal encounters, courtroom savvy, post-shooting trauma, ammunition performance in actual shooting, weapon selection criterion, and retention. Safety and correct gun handling will be stressed and expected of all students throughout the course.

This is your chance to get professional instruction from one of the world's best-known professional defensive lethal-force instructors. Remember... "Willingness is a state of mind. Readiness is a statement of fact!"



**Teaching Tip:** In the Home Firearms Safety Class, we get a wide variety of students, some of whom cannot operate the slide on a semiautomatic pistol for a variety of reasons. A technique we developed for Mona (a woman in her 70s with arthritis, not much grip strength and not much upper body strength, either) is as follows:

1. Hold the semiauto in your dominant hand.
2. Place the front sight against the edge of a wood table (the wood will not damage the metal of the front sight. Do not do this with expensive furniture.)
3. Lean forward - your body mass should force the slide open.
4. With your non-dominant hand engage the slide stop.

## Join Us in Our Grass Roots Efforts!

**Grass Roots South Carolina, P.O. Box 1181, Sumter, South Carolina 29151**

[www.scfirearms.org](http://www.scfirearms.org)

\_\_\_\_\_ I'm NEW! - Please add me to your mailing list.

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like #\_\_\_\_\_ wallet cards. (Please send donation to defray our printing and postage.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Enclosed is my donation to support your efforts ! (May we recognize your contribution in our newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_)

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