

**WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.**

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNEWS



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE
AFFILIATED WITH ILLINOIS GUN RIGHTS ALLIANCE, JPFO, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES AND OTHERS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC.

VOLUME 32, NUMBER 3

MARCH 2025



Not any more though, thanks to President Trump, Elon Musk and his autistic helpers...

TAX MONIES FUNDED GUN CONTROL ORGS

When money from anti-gun billionaires wasn't enough, gun control organizations went after taxpayer dollars

(NSSF via Shooting News Weekly) - Gun owners are getting exactly what they voted for with President Donald Trump. There's now an accounting for government malfeasance in process and he's turned up the receipts.

President Trump is delivering on his promise to break open the secretive spending habits of government officials. It's exactly what voters wanted and, frankly, expected. The results, however, have been jaw-dropping. Gun control proponents have been smashing open the government piggy bank to swipe dollars for their pet gun control projects.

That's right. Gun control advocates were using taxpayer dollars to fund their campaigns to rob Americans of their Constitutionally-protected rights to keep and bear arms. That's adding insult to injury after the Biden-Harris administration installed a taxpayer-funded "Gun Violence Prevention Office" in the White

House dedicated to pushing gun control. It was staffed by a former lobbyist for Everytown for Gun Safety, the gun control group funded by antigun billionaire Michael Bloomberg. That office effectively closed up in the days leading up to President Trump taking office as its staff all resigned.

It turns out, though, that billions of Bloomberg bucks and even more money from George and Alexander Soros weren't enough for gun control advocates. They wanted to fund the effort to cut off Second Amendment rights straight from Americans' wallets - including tax dollars paid by gun owners themselves.

Lee Williams uncovered, in a post to Shooting News Weekly, what many have suspected for years. Except it had been covered up in layers of bureaucracy and farmed out as "grants" through the U.S. Agency for International Development. That's the federal agency that's drawn

the first and damning examination by Elon Musk's Department of Government Efficiency.



The Receipts

Williams' deep dive into USAID money showed that Bloomberg's Everytown for Gun Safety, along with Giffords Courage to Fight Gun Violence, were primary beneficiaries of tax dollars to fund their gun control efforts. That money was funneled through something called NEO Philanthropy, which also funneled money to

Continued on page 22.

PRE-SORT STD.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 51
PEORIA, IL

Rich Goodall, President
Guns Save Life.com
P.O. Box 51
Savoy, IL 61874



Inside

Transporting firearms in IL

page 4

Buying ammo

page 6

Affordable self-defense

page 11

**What should you do?
Police have you at gunpoint...**

page 12

Active shooter response

page 13

Free training for educators

page 14

Body Armor

page 19

Join GSL.

page 24

March 2025

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **March 26**, April 30, May 28, June 25
Eagles Club, 3737 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **March 30**, April 27, May 25, June 29, July 27
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **March 3**, April 7, May 5, June 2, July 7
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **March 4**, April 1, May 6, June 3, July 1
Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **March 5**, April 2, May 7, June 4, July 2
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion (*Program at 6:45pm*)
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **March 6**, April 3, May 1, June 5, July 3
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6:30ish.
- **Danville:** Second Monday **March 10**, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **March 11**, *No further meetings. See pg. 3.*
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **March 12**, April 9, May 14, June 11, July 9
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Mattoon:** Second Thursday: **March 13**, April 10, May 8, June 12, July 10
The American Legion Post 88, 1903 Maple Ave, Mattoon
- **LaSalle County:** Third Thursday: **March 20**, April 17, May 15, June 19, July 17
Jamie's Outpost, 602 Clark St., Utica

Dinner, conversation, exhibits at 6 p.m. Program starts at 7 p.m.
Come on out and join us. Good food, good fun and good friends.
Dinner is optional but we encourage attendees to eat to support the venue.

Meetings are free and open to all.

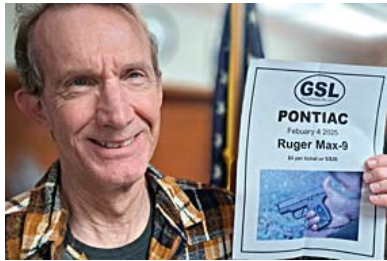
Our meetings and our members...



Better than a new purse!
Patty W. won the Mossberg MC1sc at our Sangamon County meeting at SCHEELS in Springfield. Congrats to her!



Chad Berck talked all about body armor for everyday people. See story on page 19.



We had a table full of gun drawings to choose from in Pontiac. Thanks to Ron Sparrow and Rosie Delgado for helping out with tickets.



Joyce S., second from the left, won the Great Guns Tactical BBQ gun, called the GSL-19. It was provided by John Drummond from Wayward Son Custom Gun. That's him on the third from left. The pair are with Keith Pippin our Mattoon-Charleston Regional Co-Director and Tom P. who won the S&W Bodyguard 2.

Great Guns winner!

John Drummond, a custom gunsmith and gunmaker and creator of the "Wayward Son Custom Gun" YouTube channel joined us in Mattoon. He donated a "Tactical BBQ Gun" for a "Great Guns" drawing to benefit GSL and our fight in the courts and in the court of public opinion. Joyce S., from the Mattoon-Charleston region, had the winning ticket stub drawn at the end of the meeting.

defensive ammunition, a very nice Case folding blade, and a host of other accessories.

Drummond made the formal presentation to Joyce following the drawing. Before though, he described exactly what went into making the gun. He even pledged to provide another gun for another drawing in 2026.

Many thanks to him. Subscribe to his **Wayward Son Custom Guns** YouTube channel for some great content, reviews and industry insider interviews.



Congratulations to her. She won the whole package too, including the highly tricked out gun with red dot optic, and a fancy hard-side case, spare mags, a nice leather holster, mag pouches, a state-of-the-art tactical flashlight, law-enforcement grade

GSL DEFENSE TRAINING

Firearm training for everyone

Essential Carry

IL 16-hour Concealed Carry

2025 DATES

April 5 & 6

June 21 & 22 (Free to educators!)

Sept. 20 & 21

At DeWitt Co. Sportsman's Club near Clinton
\$200 or BOGO half-off (2 for \$300)

- **Legal Lectures by LAWYERS**
- **REAL SHOOTING!** 250 rounds fired
- **EXPERIENCED**, friendly instructors
- **FEMALE- & new-shooter friendly**
- **HIGH instructor to student ratios**
- **FREE** loaner guns and gear as needed
- **FREE** bonus materials
- **SKILLED instructors.** *No PowerPoint!*

The best carry class in the state. Legal considerations taught by attorneys. Tactics taught by experienced pros. Shoot 250 rounds live fire over two days, including one-handed strong and support side, instinct shooting (from the hip), barricades, malfunction drills, movement, communication and more. Learn situational awareness and conflict avoidance, home defense, post-shooting interactions and much more.

To register, or for more information, visit

GSLDefenseTraining.com



DEAR READER:

Thank you for picking up this issue of *GunNews Magazine*. We're proud of our monthly journal and hope it helps you to become a smarter, better-informed citizen and gun owner.

Our content can help you steer clear of violent criminals. It can help you avoid jail in post-use-of-force interactions with police, prosecutors, judges and jurors. Other content will help you weather adversity and emergencies to help keep your family safe and prepared.

Membership in GSL is just \$30 annually at the moment. It's going up to \$40 in May, but for now you can save \$10 and sign up today. Your membership allows us to continue our work at the local and state level defending your right to defend yourself.

Membership comes with benefits as well, including discounts on concealed carry legal coverage as well as GSL's Legal Defense Fund for those improperly arrested on gun-related charges.

Come out and join us at our meetings, too. You'll meet some great people, potentially make some new, high-quality friends and learn new things. We'll leave you educated, entertained and energized for our never-ending fight in this state to defend your right to defend yourself. Plus we have monthly gun drawings at our meetings.

Join our family using the application on the back page of *GunNews*, online at our GunsSaveLife.com website, or drop off your membership check at a meeting (where you'll get two free gun drawing tickets for each year you join or renew!). We need you in this fight alongside the rest of our family.

Freedom isn't a spectator sport. Come join our family. Help us continue to get proven results defending your right to defend yourself.

Sincerely,

Guns Save Life

Meeting changes/updates

Champaign County.

It is with great sadness that we're closing our Champaign County chapter following the March 11, 2025 meeting. Declining attendance caused by a host of issues (not the least of which is people attending meetings closer to them at other venues), coupled with the facility rental fee and our venue's concerns about viability for serving meals all weighed heavily on our minds. We made a lot of memories at the Knights of Columbus in Rantoul.



For years our Rantoul meetings were packed to the gills with 160-200 people at each meeting. Then we began adding chapters in other regions...

We invite all of the folks who have attended our Rantoul meeting in the past to come out one final time at our March 11th meeting to celebrate our past successes there and see a short video.

We have a nice 20-gauge over-under shotgun as our final monthly drawing gun. Contact your friends and urge them to make the drive and come out to see us.



Live Free USA's **RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SEMINAR**

**Saturday, March 8 1-3p.m.
Cabela's in Hammond, IN**

Learn to use radio communications in the outdoors and during emergencies...

- Learn use & limitations of FRS & GMRS radios, channels, etc.
- Learn how to comply with FCC rules when using handheld radios
- Learn how to get a free, no test GMRS license from the FCC
- Learn proper radio use & protocols

We will give away a free Baofeng radio!

AmericanSurvivor.org



Can't make it to a meeting? Still want to win a gun? **Tickets are available!**

You can't make it to a meeting, but you want a chance to win a gun for as little as \$4? Here's your chance!
And yes, we've had several mail-in ticket winners in the past few months.

Indicate how many tickets you want for the gun you want (and city of drawing). Tickets are \$5 or 5 for \$20. Or 25 (plus a bonus) for \$100.

GSL's Treasurer Joanne Chandler will electronically notify the Regional Directors of the mail-in tickets sold for their meetings so they can get them into the drawing. If you're late, we'll return your check.

**Attn: Drawings
Guns Save Life
PO Box 8
Clinton, IL 61727**

GSL Monthly Gun Lineup!

Here are a few of the drawing guns!

**Pontiac March: Ruger RXM 9mm
Pontiac April: S&W Bodyguard 2.380**

**Sangamon April: Kimber Ultra Carry 9mm
Sangamon May: Taurus Judge Polymer
.45 Colt/.410**

**Decatur March: Ruger RXM 9mm
Decatur April: Rossi Model 92 lever action in .45 Colt**

Rantoul March: ATI Cavalry 20g over-under

**Mattoon March: Ruger Wrangler .22
Mattoon April: Armscor M1911A1 9mm**

**Chicagoland February: Ruger Max 9 9mm
Chicagoland March: S&W Bodyguard 2.0
.380
Chicagoland April: Canik MC9 METE**

Sauk Trail GUN SHOW

Fairgrounds - Princeton, Illinois
Open to the Public! **FREE PARKING.** Lunch available.
Buy - Sell - Trade / Modern & Antique
2025 Show Dates
March 29 & 30, 2024

Open to the public
8:30 - 4p Saturday, 8:30 - 2p Sunday

Dealers: 8' tables \$30 for up to two days, payable in advance.
Tables must contain 90% arms & related items

Dealer times: Friday unloading and set up starting at 1pm, Sat. & Sun. open at 7:30a.m.
Overnight accommodations, Free Parking, Lunch available on premises

NEW DEALER SPECIALS.

Contact: Marla P. 815-252-4842

Sauk Trail Gun Collectors, Inc.
PO Box 543, Chillicothe, IL 61543 PH. 309 689-1934

Executive Director's Report

SCOTUS update, IL GA update & more

by John Boch
GSL Executive Director

SCOTUS

The gun and magazine ban cases *Snope* and *Ocean State Tactical* are back in play for consideration by the US Supreme Court. If accepted, SCOTUS would set them for next court term, starting in October.

That *might* get us a decision by Christmas, but more likely in the Spring 2026. The latest would be the end of June 2026.

As noted Supreme Court watcher Chris Johnson noted in an email to me, "The game is back from half-time." Indeed.

IL General Assembly

Already there have been some crazy anti-gun proposals in this new session.

By and large we in the gun rights community are ignoring them and I'll tell you why: We don't have the votes to stop gun control bills. It doesn't matter if we have five paid lobbyists in Springfield or 500, it will not matter. If the Democrats want to pass a gun control bill, there's nothing we can do. We don't have the votes. Heck, we can't even keep the Republican caucus in line.

I know I received a fundraising mailer recently from a gun rights org. "Without (this group) only one side gets heard!" the envelope touted.



These men couldn't give a damn what gun owners have to say.

Guess what? The people running Springfield don't listen to what gun owners think, except for one thing and that's to help them make their bad bills better.

GSL is done helping them improve their poorly written bills, and so are most of the other gun rights groups throughout the state and noted legislative strategists like Dan Eldridge and Todd Vandermyde.

Todd and I have been advocating this "don't help them fix it before they pass it" position since the Gun Dealer Licensing fiasco, but only *finally* now it seems like pretty much the rest of the gun groups are following that as well. Remember, the worse the bill, the easier it is to overturn in court.

Gun Confiscation signed.

Pritzker signed the gun confiscation without due process bill in early February. Hopefully none of us will get hit by one of these and get a visit from the local PD or sheriff with a warrant to poke around our house looking for guns, gun parts and ammunition.

Sure, you probably think it could never happen to you. I hope it doesn't. But these Emergency Orders of Protection are borderline common practice in divorces.



Even if you're happily married, you should be very careful what you say to health care providers, school officials, mental health practitioners and other mandated reporters. Lest you find yourself spend a few thousand dollars and several months dealing with the State Police to restore your gun rights over a poorly considered flippant remark.

I apologize to the ISRA

I apologize to the ISRA's leadership for ruffling feathers in contrasting their most recent issue of *The Illinois Shooter* with our *GunNews* on our website.



STARK DIFFERENCES

Both were published in the days following the passage of a first-of-its-kind bill to confiscate guns in Illinois without due process.

We chose to feature the gun confiscation bill on our front page. The ISRA chose to instead report on Biden's BATF director submitting his resignation in December (as everyone expected) and urging Trump to nominate a solid candidate for BATF director.

At Guns Save Life, we strive to include the best, most relevant content to not only help make you a better, more-informed gun owner, but to help keep you out of jail too.

We also include material for how to keep your family safe, secure and to help you and your friends thrive during adversity.

This content, provided by our resident member experts, guest contributors and some of the best content from the web is why we've built our reputation for such a solid publication.

In fact, *GunNews* has also helped us build a very successful, very pro-active grassroots gun rights organization in the Land of Lincoln.

My contrast of the headlines from our respective January publications wasn't meant as an attack in ISRA or its leadership, just upon what I saw as a marginal choice for the cover story. Here's my apology for anyone who took it as an attack. I'm sorry.

Yes, minors of any age may transport unloaded & encased firearms if they have a FOID

Transporting Firearms in Illinois

Please... don't make it more difficult than it already is. Especially for younger folks.

by John Boch

In addition to countless spam calls that make my phone almost unusable for voice calls, I get queries from gun owners about legalities when it comes to guns. Shocking, I know.



"Someone said my 16-year-old can't transport his shotgun in his car to his clays team practice," was one such call recently.

The poor dad was beside himself. Legal "experts" at a gun club in Central Illinois were trying to tell him his FOID-holder son was illegally transporting an unloaded, encased shotgun in his car because he was a minor. (We aren't identifying the club, for now at least, to help them avoid public ridicule.)

A week or so later, dad called me back. He received additional static from said range's legal "experts." He had also called the offices of another gun rights org who told him under 18s couldn't transport a firearm legally in their car.

For the love of Jesus. Folks, don't make transporting firearms in our gun-unfriendly state more difficult than it already is. Especially for younger shooters just getting into our beloved sport.

And stop quoting bad law.

Have a FOID card? The law says you can transport unloaded, encased firearms. Period.

For long guns, this applies to everyone, regardless of age. For example: my six-year-olds could have unloaded, encased long guns

strapped on their bicycles and be completely legal, thanks to their FOID cards (so long as they have FOIDs on their person).

For handguns, transportation for under 21s is a touch more restrictive, but not much. Under 21s can legally transport handguns so long as they're going to or from a legitimate use of said pistol(s). For most folks, that would mean a range or private property for target practice or training. In other cases, that might mean taking it to/from a gunsmith (licensed or not) for cleaning, maintenance or repair.



"Oh, that John Boch guy doesn't know what he's talking about!" some might say, foolishly I might add.

Don't take my word for it. Here's the text from the April 2024 version of the Illinois State Police's brochure entitled "Transport Your Firearm Legally."

(Pro-tip: Google the title. Download it, print it out and stuff a copy in each of your gun cases, your kids' gun cases, your glove box and print out a bunch of extras to share with other parents from your kids' sporting clays team.)

HOW CAN I LEGALLY TRANSPORT A FIREARM IN A VEHICLE?

Four statutory sections regulate the possession, transfer and transportation of firearms: the Criminal Code; the Wildlife Code; the Firearm Owner's Identification Act; and the Firearm Concealed Carry Act.

When transporting a

firearm, it must be: broken down in a non-functioning state; or not immediately accessible; or unloaded and enclosed in a case, firearm carrying box, shipping box, or other container by a person who has a valid FOID card; or carried or possessed in accordance with the Firearm Concealed Carry Act (430 ILCS 66/) by a person who has a valid Illinois Concealed Carry License.

Notice how there's no mention of legal ages where transporting a firearm is prohibited? Because there's not. Only handguns are mildly restricted for under 21s to "to or from" a legitimate use.

Moreover, transporting ammo is not regulated, contrary to what some of those same gun club legal "experts" might allege.

HOW CAN I LEGALLY TRANSPORT OR POSSESS FIREARM AMMUNITION? Illinois

law requires residents possessing ammunition to have in their possession a valid FOID card or Illinois Concealed Carry License issued in their name. The location of the ammunition being transported, including ammunition being transported in loaded magazines, is not regulated if the firearm is lawfully possessed and transported. When transporting, do NOT store a loaded magazine in the firearm's magazine well or ammunition in a revolver's cylinder.

Now, go forth and enjoy the shooting sports.

Tell nagging FUDDs to bone up on the law and stop being stuck on stupid.

Let's help our young people enjoy our beloved sport, not cloud their minds with unfounded worries about the legality of transporting their shotgun to practice.



MAKE TRACKS TO
GROSS' BURGERS

GROSS' BURGERS
25 Henderson Street
Danville, IL 61832
(217) 442-8848



This is third White County judgement ruling FOID unconstitutional

FOID Act struck down, in part, again

(The Center Square) – A White County Illinois judge has found the state's Firearms Owner's ID card unconstitutional when enforced against someone possessing their firearms in their home.

The case *Illinois vs. Vivian Brown* stems from a 2017 case where Brown separated from her husband. She possessed a single-shot .22 rifle in her home. Her husband filed a complaint against her alleging she fired the rifle inside the home. Police found the rifle had not been fired, but the state's attorney charged her with possessing a firearm without a FOID card.

"After analyzing all the evidence in this matter, this Court finds that the Defendant's activity of possessing a firearm within the confines of her home is an act protected by the Second Amendment," wrote White County Resident Circuit Judge T. Scott Webb. "Additionally, there are no historical analogues to the FOID Act as required in *Bruen*."

The judge further said in his ruling Monday, "the Court finds that any fee associated with exercising the core fundamental Constitutional right of armed self-defense within the confines of one's home violates the Second Amendment."

Our take on the FOID ruling out of White County

(GSL) - Yes, Virginia, the Firearms Owners ID Act has been struck down by a third (!) judge in White County, Illinois. Definitely don't burn your FOID card or go dancing in the streets just yet.

The ruling applies only to having guns in the home.

What's more, Attorney General Kwame Raoul is guaranteed to appeal this

decision to the Illinois Supreme Court as he did the previous two times judges drove a stake in the heart of the FOID Act.

Each time the Illinois Supreme Court squirms and finds a reason to kick the case back down to the circuit court to try again.

Will the Land of Lincoln's high court finally hear the case and follow the rule of

law to strike down the FOID Act that clearly runs afoul of not only the Second Amendment, but the US Supreme Court precedent in the *Bruen* decision?

Did the racists and bigots give up school segregation after the *Brown v. Board of Education* decision from the US Supreme Court?

Spoiler alert: They didn't.

Madigan convicted of multiple corruption charges

(Chicago *Sun-Times*) - Michael J. Madigan spent decades building a political empire rivaled in Illinois history only by his most storied peers, rising to become the longtime speaker of the state's House of Representatives, chair of its Democratic Party and head of a powerhouse tax

appeal firm.

But in a landmark verdict that could transform the 82-year-old politician into a federal inmate in the twilight of his life, a jury found Madigan guilty Wednesday of a nearly decade-long bribery conspiracy involving ComEd. They also

convicted him of a plot to install ex-Ald. Danny Solis on a state board in exchange for Solis' help securing private business for Madigan's law firm.

However, the jury stopped far short of delivering the sweeping verdict prosecutors sought.

We're suspicious of hidden motives

Under new proposal, first-time gun violators could earn a firearms license by participating in diversion program

(Chicago *The Center Square*) — Cook County's new state's attorney is proposing a new law that would help people charged with illegally possessing firearms get a license so they can own the weapons legally. Eileen Burke's office revealed the idea on Friday.

according to the announcement. Anyone accused of possessing machine guns, an increasingly common situation in Chicago, would not be eligible.

"This program provides otherwise law-abiding citizens without criminal history who were arrested because they failed to obtain a [firearm owner's license], a pathway to come into compliance with those licensing regulations," Burke's office said.

"There is no higher priority for this office than getting illegal guns and the people who use them off the street, and we will use every resource at our disposal in that effort," Burke said in the statement. "At the same time, we must be smart about how we use our resources and how we impact people and communities. This bill will provide another tool to strike that important balance."



Cook County SA Eileen Burke.

First-time gun offenders charged with a low-level firearms violation could "get into compliance with the law" if they complete a diversion program under the proposal,

Guns Save Life endorses our members

TODD VANDERMYDE & RICHARD "DICK" FAIRBURN
for NRA Board of Directors

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club
Clinton, IL



BREAKFAST! First and Third Sunday. 8:30a.m.
JOIN US! Open to all.

See Calendar for Shoots & Events (p. 22)

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

Come join a growing, ever-improving club, with three independent ranges and permissive rules which allow shooters to practice from holsters, double-taps, movement and so forth. Centrally located on Route 10, six miles east of Clinton, IL (15423 State Highway 10). Great people and a warm atmosphere. Facilities include *three* ranges, clubhouse, a *real* publicly-accessible restroom and more. **Dues are currently \$70/year plus two work days (\$45 each on deposit, prepayment required). Over 65 dues are \$55 and no workdays.**

Download an application at dewittcountysc.com or by mailing a request to DCSC, PO Box 322, Clinton, IL 61727.



BUYING AMMO?



Bass Pro claims to respect privacy, but their actions speak louder than words

Privacy in ammo sales

by John Boch

If you're like me, you're not a big fan of letting the Illinois State Police know every time you buy ammunition. Frankly, it's none of government's business. Not only that, but when I buy ammo (and even guns) in person, I try to always use cash to keep the credit card companies out of my business as well.

In Illinois, retailers are supposed to ascertain the validity of a FOID card by going to an online portal at the ISP's Firearms Services Bureau website for any FOID that doesn't have an expiration date on its face. This is why I carry my old FOID for use in stores so they don't have to run my card and let JB Pritzker's cops know I'm purchasing more freedom pills.

So imagine my surprise when

trying to buy several hundred dollars of ammo at Bass Pro in Peoria the guy at the gun counter takes my FOID and starts punching numbers into the computer. That was new. Turns out even though there was an expiration date shown on its face (expiring in 2031) he was still running it.

Before he finished I asked him to return my FOID and told him he could put the ammo back. He seemed almost aghast that I wasn't happily willing to register my ammo purchase with the ISP. He might have made a good communist party apparatchik in the old Soviet Union.

Then on the way out, I saw signs, "We Respect Your Privacy." Except when they don't.

I spoke with the store manager and their firearms

compliance manager. Both said their hands were tied by Bass Pro corporate when it comes to Illinois gun laws. Fine. Bass Pro has its policy, and I have mine. I vote with my wallet. I'd urge others to do the same.

Most retailers will simply glance at your gun card and the picture and say thanks and proceed with the sale. I like those places and strive to do business with them. The ones that go above and beyond the existing Draconian rules and regs here in Illinois almost never see my money.

So if you value your privacy and your local gun shop or farm store does too, by all means, send them your business. It's worth a few extra dollars. If they don't, and you would rather not be on ISP's radar, shop elsewhere.

Locked & Loaded and Ammunition To Go are good to go for bulk factory ammo purchases

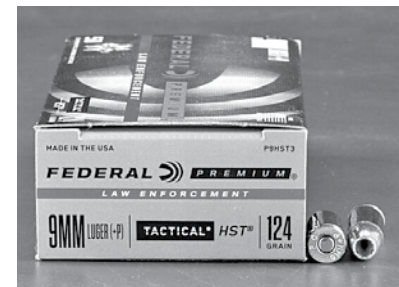
(GSL) - Most folks buy their ammo a few boxes at a time at their local gun shop or farm store and that takes care of their needs. Some of us either shoot more or have greater needs for larger quantities. For that, looking online can help folks find case-lot quantities as well as less common calibers or loads. Sometimes it can also result in meaningful savings - like a \$100 or more per case of 1000 rounds.

Two outlets that have established a solid reputation are Locked and Loaded in Pana (LockedLoaded.com) along with Ammo to Go from Tennessee.

Ammunition to Go (also known as AmmoToGo.com and AmmunitionToGo.com) dazzles with not only their massive selection and competitive prices but their lightning fast shipping too. Order from Amazon as a Prime member and order from Ammunition To Go, and your ammo will probably arrive before your Amazon order.

by sending us some ammo to do a couple of reviews upon. I placed an order like everyone else and used a furnished gift card code. They emailed me asking for a scan or photo of my FOID card (and maybe driver's license). Two days later I had boxes of freedom pills on my doorstep.

Since then I've ordered multiple times and their fast deliveries leave me in awe every time.



Whether you order from them or not, their website has valuable ballistic gel performance data on many defensive loads in many of the popular calibers. You can see which loads offer the most consistent penetration (just over 12" is ideal, according to the FBI) along with average expansion through barriers like clothing.

This may help you decide which of the 68 available 9mm jacketed hollow point products (available as of this writing) might work best for your defense needs.

Imitation websites

The good folks at ISRA have cautioned people about some scammers using web sites that imitate legit web sites, and that bears watching. I haven't had that problem with AmmoToGo.com or LockedLoaded.com.

If you're really worried about it, you can always stick with your local gun shop and pay with cash to keep the sale as private as possible. In this day and age, privacy is worth more than a little all by itself.



Locked and Loaded has some amazing deals too, although their shipping is not nearly as prompt. Having said that, for a drive to Pana, you can save on most of the shipping by picking up your order in person. I know people who drive from Cook County down to Locked and Loaded. They usually return with their trucks and SUVs sagging from the weight of the ammo to make the drive extra worthwhile. Heck, the savings from not paying Cook County's unconstitutional ammo tax makes the trip worth it all by itself.

Meanwhile, Ammo To Go introduced themselves to me a couple of years ago

Yeah no, you gave your grandfather's WW2 guns to a gun buyback for an Applebees gift card



GEORGE ALARM COMPANY

BURGLAR • FIRE • VIDEO SURVEILLANCE
CARD ACCESS • ANSWERING SERVICES
U.L. CENTRAL STATION MONITORING



www.georgealarm.com

COMMERCIAL • RESIDENTIAL • INDUSTRIAL



- 62 YEARS EXPERIENCE
- 24 HOUR SERVICE
- FREE ESTIMATES
- MONITORING & SERVICE OF ANY EXISTING SYSTEM
- CUSTOM DESIGNED SYSTEMS
- CONTROLLED BY ANY SMARTPHONE
- LICENSED & INSURED # 127000430

WE ARE DEDICATED TO PROTECTING YOU!

 Listed Central Station

217-525-1334

Protect your home
for as little as \$199

8 Lifetime NRA Members - Supporters of the 2nd Amendment - 10% off Basic or Basic Plus Video



In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King
by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member



36 Rods from God... each strikes with 2.34 billion ft-pounds of energy

When Kinetic is King

There are certain firearms that when you shoot them, you know immediately that this is what you need – whether that is for duck hunting, self-defense, or just punching holes in a paper target. Other than target shooting, the key to a firearm doing what you need first time and every time is kinetic energy – the energy the projectile delivers to the target.

Kinetic energy in large amounts is like getting hit by a bus. The bus doesn't explode, it just hits you with so much force that it permanently turns out your lights – the party's over, as "Dandy Don" Meredith, used to sing on Monday Night Football. In handguns, think .357 Magnum, .44 Magnum, 10mm, and those really crazy .454 Casull, .460 S&W Magnum, etc.

But now, there may be a new kinetic king in town, and although the BATF probably hasn't gotten around to banning it, you can't own one, unless you have a few hundred million bucks lying around, and know a guy, who knows a guy, and that guy is in Russia.

Because Russia just fired a really big weapon that hit near the Ukrainian city of Dnipro, that eyewitnesses described as unusual, triggering explosions that went on for three hours. It was so powerful that in the aftermath, Ukrainian officials said it bore the characteristics of an intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). It wasn't a nuke, but a missile flying at the upper edge of the definition of hypersonic, and few things can achieve this.

Russian President Vladimir Putin, in a TV address, said that this "new conventional intermediate-range" missile was code-named Oreshnik, meaning "hazel tree" in Russian.

He said it was moving at Mach 10, which I think is about 7,612 miles per hour, although a friend of mine inside the beltway says it

was at Mach 11 (8,373 mph) but what's a few mph among friends? And when it starts descending on the target, it picks up *even more speed* and thus gains *even more* kinetic energy, and more kinetic energy gives it more options to maneuver down towards the target, by performing some kind of defending "wriggle" moves that make interception by surface-to-air missiles really difficult.



The launch probably came from the Russian missile test range at Kapustin Yar, 500 miles from Dnipro. So it didn't take long to get there. My guess is the actual target was the Pivdenmash rocket/missile production factory at #1 Kryvorizka Street, although the Russians had already hit that on July 17, 2022.

By comparison, your rifle shooting a bullet 4,000 feet per second is in theory 2,727 miles per hour, but that's only at the muzzle. And that bad ass .357 Magnum you're toting around, firing a Buffalo Bore 125 grain bullet, is pushing that a "whopping" 1,159 mph, but that velocity decreases even faster. And your bullets aren't doing any shake-and-bake moves.

You see, the hazel tree apparently was equipped with six warheads, each with six sub-munitions. Think of each sub-munition as a huge spear of very dense metal. So 36 spears. But it isn't like a shotgun with multiple pellets. Each spear just doesn't fly out unguided like a pellet from a 12 gauge

shotgun. One analyst estimated that the hazel tree had multiple independently-guided warheads, meaning the "practically simultaneous arrival of the warheads at the target."

Let's look at energy. Your .44 Mag round often hits the target at say 800 foot-pounds. I don't know how much the spears weigh in this missile, but say 1,000 pounds each. At the speeds we're talking about, each spear strikes with roughly 2,343,627,879 foot-pounds of energy!!! (2.34 billion ft-pounds.) But I barely passed physics, so who knows? It's a lot, and could destroy well-protected bunkers at great depths without using a nuclear warhead, and cause structures to collapse somewhat like from the energy of an earthquake.

This new generation of Russian intermediate-range missiles has a range of 1,550-1,860 miles, potentially extending to 3,100 miles. Those numbers could put almost the whole of Europe within range, but not the US. That will mean that the Euros may start screaming for American Patriot missiles and Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) anti-ballistic missile defense systems designed to intercept and destroy enemy missiles in their terminal phase, such as descent. I have no idea how much the Ukrainians and Europeans pay for US weapons, versus piece of the cost that you and I pay out of our taxes each year.

As my friend in DC said, "Ukraine – like Spain in the 1930's – is a testing ground for new weapons and operational concepts."

The Ukrainians now have the US Army Tactical Missile System (ATACMS) weapons and are firing them into Russia. I think Lockheed makes them; lots of people make a lot of money in war.

Those are not new; I watched them fire in 2003 in OIF and they were pretty impressive.

The anti-personnel mines we appear to be giving Ukraine are ugly. They aren't new; they aren't sophisticated technology; and they don't cost that much money to produce. You also never find all of them when you pick up the minefields, and years later civilians – often little kids – get killed by the ones that remain buried in the ground.

Some people call that "collateral damage"; unless it's your grandkid that gets killed. Because this war is starting to accelerate faster than a hazel tree.

Want **GunNews** for your business or organization?

If you cannot secure a volunteer to bring your business, range or organization a bundle of *GunNews* from one of our distribution hubs, we can mail a priority mail medium box filled with about 50-55 copies of *GunNews* to you each month. All we ask is that you pay in advance for postage costs. These will arrive about six days after the third Tuesday of the month. Email jboch@gunssavelife.com for more information.

\$234 for 12 months.



Firearms
A
M
M
U
N
I
T
I
O
N
G
u
n
s
m
i
t
h
i
n
g

X RING CUSTOM

Complete Firearms Sales & Service

508A W Main St - Toledo, IL 62468

Outdoor Rifle and Pistol Ranges with 25—100—200—300 yard berms

ADVANCED PISTOL,
LONG RANGE RIFLE,
CARBINE CLASSES
DATES AVAILABLE

Largest Selection of
Firearms, Ammunition,
Reloading Supplies, AR-
15's and Accessories in
East Central Illinois



Shooting you the best price in Central Illinois!!

Gun Shop Hours

Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm
Saturday 9:00am - noon

email: sales@xringcustom.com

Shop: 217-849-3353

Illinois Concealed Carry Classes

Call for Dates and Availability
Range Fees Included
*Active Military & Veteran Discount

Gift Certificates Available!



TERRANCE C. SULLIVAN, MANAGING BROKER

LYONS-SULLIVAN REALTY, INC.

321 W. MADISON STREET, PONTIAC, IL 61764
OFFICE 815-842-1400 | DIRECT 815-674-6299
LYONSULLIVANREALTY.COM

Farm&Home SUPPLY

PROTECTION PLAN

PROTECT YOUR FIREARMS PURCHASE



1 OR 3 YEARS REPAIR WITH 1 ANNUAL MAINTENANCE PER YEAR OF COVERAGE

GUN REGULAR PRICE RANGE	1 YEAR RETAIL	3 YEAR RETAIL
\$0 - \$299.99	\$24.99	\$49.99
\$300 - \$599.99	\$44.99	\$89.99
\$600 - NO LIMIT	\$64.99	\$129.99

15 STORES IN ILLINOIS, IOWA & MISSOURI





A Reflection on Vote-by-Mail and the 2024 General Election in Illinois

"Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just have to sit on their blisters."

- Abraham Lincoln

By Nancy Hayes
Election Integrity Chair
Illinois Freedom Alliance
Lincoln was absolutely right when he wrote that "elections belong to the people."

Many variables influence free, fair and honest elections. Unfortunately, our elections in the Land of Lincoln are case studies on how to hold "fixed" elections. Of course, cynics will say the supermajority of Democrats in the Illinois legislature have crafted this system for self-serving purposes.

Here are some of the problems we face in our state.

Electing low-information politicians: aka "We get the government we deserve."

You get what you vote for - gooder and harder as Professor Glenn Reynolds says. If voters keep voting in the same radical extremist politicians who advocate for poor public policy, we'll get more of the same failed radical public policies they support. This includes anti-gun, pro-criminal policies that endanger all of us and our families.

The pro-gun, pro-America folks can't sit around griping. We have to get educated, energized and engaged in the process if we are going to make a difference.

Election Season instead of Election Day

In Illinois, even though our Constitution states that "Election Day" is on the first Tuesday in November, we now have a 55-day election season thanks to vote-by-mail.

Vote-by-mail and bad voter rolls

According to the election integrity organization Public Interest Legal Foundation, "vote by mail (VBM) is the WORST way to run an election."

VBM requires highly accurate voter rolls which we don't have in Illinois. Our state uses the Electronic Registration Information Center (ERIC). ERIC is only interested in signing new voters, not purging people who have moved or died.

In the 2022 elections, research has shown that while 4,144,125 votes were cast, 118,780 of those voters did not exist, and 349,230 addresses on file were invalid.

Voting in person is the most secure way to run an election and it gives voters an opportunity to correct errors on their ballots.

The US Mail.

Let's be honest about today's US Mail: Would you trust them to deliver an envelope with a \$50 bill inside? If not, why do you trust the same USPS to deliver your vote?

Let's be real, until more people get involved in election integrity, starting in their own precinct, Illinois is not going to change.

By educating people, we can help get more voters engaged in the process to take back free and fair elections.

Afterall, if you look back at history, it was Lincoln who brought in "absentee voting" in Illinois back during the Civil War. "Absentee voting" was a way of voting to support those soldiers who were off at war fighting for our country. That was a legitimate reason.

Election integrity in our state has been going downhill ever since VBM started. Illinois changed to "no excuse" absentee ballots and most recently we went to Pritzker's "permanent vote by mail". These changes have brought all manner of problems and potential fraud.

Do we really want to go the way of California, Oregon,

or Colorado – an all vote by mail state? In case you missed it, those people that "vote by mail" tend to be quite antagonistic towards gun rights.

In general though, as anyone involved in election integrity would tell you, greater convenience means more irregularities and opportunities for fraud. Again, the more ballots cast "outside of the public eye," the greater the potential for fraud.

Take time to watch "2000 Mules" by True the Vote related to the 2020 election.

As a good friend of mine, Herman Cain used to say "Stay educated! Stay engaged! Stay inspired!"

We help people do just that at the Illinois Freedom Alliance. We help pro-freedom, pro-gun and pro-America first groups and organizations network together and share resources. We also educate and empower people through our educational programs online and in person. And we host seminars with great speakers too. Visit our website for more information.

Contact the Illinois Freedom Alliance (www.illinoisfreedomalliance.us or call 309-377-1776).



IllinoisFreedomAlliance.us



Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network advice: Be prepared to testify in your defense

by Marty Hayes, J.D.
(Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network) - Kayla Giles, the Louisiana mom who shot and killed her estranged husband, was subsequently convicted of second-degree murder and obstructing justice and is currently serving a life sentence plus 30 years for the two crimes, was back in the news the other day, when she appealed her conviction to the Louisiana Supreme Court. If you remember, she was the individual USCCA dropped because their insurance underwriter believed she committed murder, as opposed to a legitimate act of self defense. Over the past year, her case has become "YouTube famous" in part from the Attorneys on Retainer's owner Marc Victor promoting his company by exposing the USCCA's involvement in the case.

I will let you learn all about the case on your own if you wish by searching YouTube for her name, which will lead you to numerous videos on the subject. It is a topic of debate by "GunTubers" (YouTube celebrities who take money from the different companies in the industry to promote their sponsor over the others).

The facet of this case that I want to address with our members is the argument that the State of Louisiana used in the case when they said that because Kayla Giles had-

- 1) bought a gun for self defense,
- 2) researched her state laws on use of force in self defense, and
- 3) bought a self-defense insurance policy,

- all before killing her husband in what she described as self defense, this constituted "pre-meditation" and that she planned to murder her husband.

The issues run deeper, but this facet is what I am most concerned about for our members.

In fact, I had the very same concerns 12 years ago, when we posed the question to our Network Affiliated Attorneys, and they responded... While these columns are 12 years old, the attorneys' commentaries are as current as if they had been written today.



Kayla Giles.

In researching the Kayla Giles case, I found no indication that Giles testified in court. Because she did not

testify, much of the state's theory of the case was allowed to go unchallenged. Instead, the state was allowed to play an investigative interview of Giles, which did her no favors, and because she did not testify on her own behalf, it probably led to her conviction.

Network members reading this **should be prepared to testify at trial**, in an attempt to educate the jury about what was going through their mind when they made the decision to shoot (or use any force) in self defense.

They could explain why they bought the gun in the first place, why they conducted research on self-defense law, and why they joined the Network. Of course, our educational package also goes to the mindset of the defendant (a member accused of murder), and I would absolutely be available to testify why I started the Network, if asked.


Editor's Note: *GSL members and friends can get \$25 off their first year's membership in ACLDN by mentioning John Boch or Guns Save Life when signing up, bringing the annual dues that first year to about \$125. You can bring your own attorney or they can provide recommendations should you need representation in the aftermath of a use-of-force incident.*

Guns Save Life endorses our members
**TODD VANDERMYDE &
RICHARD "DICK" FAIRBURN**
for NRA Board of Directors

State Line Rifle Association

Proud sponsor of the **NRA Family Fun Shoot Day at the Wisconsin Sportsman Association.**
In affiliation with: NRA, ISRA, GOA, IFOR, CMP, GSL, MCSA
Monthly meetings on the **fourth Tuesday** each month at 7pm.
American Legion
111 E. Main Street
Round Lake Park, IL 60073

StateLineRifle.com
see us on Facebook


SLRA
An influential voice in advancing armed self-defense 'North of I-80'



Start litigating these claims instead of paying outrageous settlements!

STOP 'GHETTO LOTTERY': Chicago pays out 107.5M in police settlements in 2024

(The Center Square) – American Civil Liberties Union Policy Director Ed Yohnka says the growing number of legal settlements that Chicago taxpayers are being forced to pay out stemming from police misconduct cases calls for immediate action...

City data shows taxpayers in 2024 were forced to shell out at least \$107.5 million to settle lawsuits against officers alleging misconduct that ranged from wrongful convictions to improper pursuits. In addition to being the most taxpayers have been left on the hook for in any year since 2011, the total also represents a 43% increase over 2023, easily topping the \$82 million annually set aside by the city to resolve such cases.

[Editor: Yohnka is right. Those payouts should serve as a call for immediate action - specifically for the city to stop paying out "settlements" for every claim and start litigating every one of them in court. Just days ago the Mayor Johnson would have given the family of a would-be cop killer \$1.25M.



Cops drew down on Reed after he smashed into a squad car trying to drive off from a traffic stop.

That's right. Instead of pulling out his driver's license (assuming he had one), Dexter Reed smashed into a squad car trying to pull away from a traffic stop, then he pulled out his illegally possessed pistol and shot at the police, wounding one of the cops. Police did the only polite thing: they fired back in self-defense. The police had better aim. And then Mayor Johnson negotiated a \$1.25M settlement with Reed's family over his death. What kind of craziness is this?]



Chicago Public Schools spends \$93K per student at one school. What happened?

Not a single student there can read at grade level.

(Illinois Policy Institute) - Think student success is just a matter of spending enough money? Well, Douglass Academy High School spent \$93,787 per student last school year – yet not a single 11th grade student at the school was proficient in reading or math.

Only 35 students were enrolled at Douglass last year in a building that can fit over 900 students. There are currently 27 full-time equivalent staff members, an increase of two staff members since the previous school year.

What sense does it make to keep a big high school open for basically a single classroom worth of students? Why squander so many resources on so few students?

Because the Chicago Teachers Union demands it...

Not a single 11th grade student could read or perform math at grade level on the SAT in the 2023-2024 school year. Douglass saw 80% of tested students score in the lowest proficiency level for reading. In math, 90% scored in the

lowest level.

[Editor's note: If young people can't read or write as they exit high school, they aren't going to be able to get a decent job and build a career as a productive member of society. Instead, with joblessness and too much free time, they will often gravitate towards the "glamorous" gang lifestyle of money, drugs and crime. Of course, that's a dead end, but most don't see that. All they see are the flashy photos of gang members with tons of cash, jewelry and firepower.]



Too bad the mayor unplugged ShotSpotter

VICTIM #34: Passerby finds gunshot victim lying alone in the street

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Passersby found a 54-year-old man lying in the middle of 49th Street overnight, suffering from three gunshot wounds to his chest, Chicago police said. Nobody called 911 to report gunfire in the area.

The man was found on a block that was monitored by the city's ShotSpotter gunfire detection network until Mayor Brandon Johnson ended the company's contract in September. Had the system been operational this morning, it could have alerted police and EMS to the shooting so the victim didn't have to lie around waiting for someone to find him.

[Editor: This is the 34th person found in areas formerly served by ShotSpotter, two-thirds of which are black. They all suffered delayed treatment and almost half died waiting for care.]



Venezuelan gang banger suspected in Chicago shooting spree arrested by feds... in NC

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Immigration enforcement agents have arrested a Venezuelan gang member who's suspected of participating in a mass shooting here in Chicago, according to federal authorities.

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents arrested Ricardo Padilla-Granadillo, 24, in Raleigh, NC, over the weekend, the agency said in a press release, adding that Granadillo was "illegally present" in the United States. Investigators found a gun, ammunition, and "10 other Venezuelan aliens" in the house where Granadillo was arrested, said the press release.

The agency said Granadillo is a "suspected member of the Tren de Aragua gang and a suspect in a mass shooting in Chicago."



JOIN US! Chicagoland GSL meeting

Last Sunday of the Month.
Dinner & conversation at 4:30ish.
Meeting program at 5:30.

Park Forest
American Legion Post
Chicago Heights, IL

NEXT MEETINGS:
Sun., March 30



Wed., March 12th

>> Meeting program at 6pm <<

**GSL
NORTHWEST
CHICAGOLAND**

Prairie House Tavern
2710 N Main St.
Buffalo Grove, IL 60089

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page.

AFFORDABLE SELF-DEFENSE.

by John Boch

Thanks in part to high sales taxes and gun regulations in our state, it's not difficult to drop \$1000 on a new handgun, a spare magazine or two and a hundred rounds of defensive hollow-point ammunition. Throw in a holster and a durable carry belt and you're looking at another C-note, maybe two. And then there's the Land of Lincoln's onerous training requirement (more money) and crazy expensive licensing fee (\$153) if you want to carry in public. Yeah, you can spend \$1500 easy for legal carry.

What are people living paycheck to paycheck supposed to do? Honestly, it's all part of the racist roots of gun control. The gun haters try to drive up the costs of gun ownership and self-defense to keep the poor folks disarmed. This happened after the Civil War when some states banned all handguns except the (very) pricey "Army and Navy" revolvers. It continues today.

Today, if you're on a budget looking to buy your first or second gun, what's the first thing you should do? Easy, you drive outside of Cook County so you're not hit with a \$25 tax on a gun purchase. That savings pays for your gas.



Here are some quality options for you. And some recommendations of products to avoid. Why does my opinion count? I've shot (and shoot) a lot of guns and I know the difference between stuff and Shinola. One of my side gigs is reviewing guns professionally, and my reviews have been read by millions nationally over the years. For what it's worth.

Basic home defense. Cheap.

I teach with GSL Defense Training, a cadre of close to twenty of outstanding instructors. Most of us have been to national classes to perfect the fundamentals and learn new skill sets. We shoot well and we are fortunate enough that we can generally afford whatever gun we want for home defense.

Having said that, except for the guy with an autistic son, we all have a pump-action shotgun for when things go bump in the night. Why? Because a load of buckshot to the chest reduces *both* a bad guy's combat effectiveness *and* his recidivism rate - both to near zero *all at the same time*.

If affordable pump shotguns are good enough for highly-trained instructors, why wouldn't you opt for one for your family too?

Brand new Turkish-made pump guns sell for under \$200. Kit them up with ten rounds of 00-buck (call it \$10) and your family can rest peacefully knowing you can repel goblins and goons very effectively. Even a single-shot break-open shotgun (\$100ish) with that same buckshot will ruin a sex-crazed maniac's and/or drug-addled home intruder's day/night. But I'd find the extra \$50 and get a Turkish pump gun if it was me.



Yours truly demonstrating the fearsome power of a shotgun at a class. Shotguns with buckshot don't poke holes in jugs like pistol rounds do. They annihilate the jugs.

To avoid: While the price might be great, avoid Turkish semi-auto shotguns like the plague. Their reliability is iffy to be very kind. Also, don't use birdshot loads for self-defense. No matter what the guy on the internet or your daddy used to tell you about birdshot for self-defense... birdshot is for birds, not bad guys.

Defensive Handguns.

Recommended: If you're brand new to shooting or not going to practice a lot (and range time in the big city isn't cheap, I get that), then I'd recommend a revolver. The simplicity and ease of use is outstanding. The problem? Finding quality affordable revolvers today poses a challenge.

You'll pay almost \$400 for even the "affordable" decent revolvers out there. Charter Arms modern production guns are okay. The new Rossi RP-63 is good, as are Taurus wheelguns, but again, these are all in the mid- to high-\$300s on a good day.

Everyone wants a semi-auto today because they are what's "in style." With that in mind, anything in the Taurus "G"-series are great guns at very affordable prices - as low as \$200ish on sale. Nice triggers, comfortable grips, good capacity, affordable spare magazines. The G-series remains a best buy for the working class on a budget and the G3 series often comes with three mags!



Taurus GX4.

Ruger has some outstanding guns priced at or just above those Tauruses. The LCP Max .380 is arguably one of the two or three best micro pocket pistols out there as is selling

at just over \$300. It even comes with night sights! Ruger's Security .380 and Security 9 will do a fine job for those on a budget too.

The Ruger Max 9 is outstanding as well... great trigger, 15-round capacity, also \$350ish. The new Ruger RXM sells for about \$400 and is every bit as good as a Glock and it takes Glock mags, too.

Have limited hand strength? I've got you covered. Take a look at the Ruger Security .380 that sells for a little over \$300. S&W M&P "EZ" .380 or the S&W Equalizer 9mm are a little pricier, but they too play nicely with those with arthritis or hand strength issues.

Pro-tip: If you have the coin, spend \$10 or \$20 to rent a gun before you buy it at a gun shop that has a range attached. Shoot 50 rounds of cheap practice ammo. Do you like how the gun shoots? How it feels? Are you able to manipulate the controls effectively? If that extra \$20 hurts, ask your gun owner friend(s) if they have a gun you're thinking about buying and ask to borrow theirs for a test-firing on the range.

Avoid: For the love of God, while the price might be great, avoid .25 Autos, derringers and Hi-Point handguns (one 1000-round test averaged a stoppage every 37 rounds... or was it 27?). SCCY's non-striker-fired pistols have lousy triggers that make accurate fire difficult even for great shooters. Ditto for first-generation pocket .380s like the Kel-Tec P3AT, the Ruger LCP (they *still* sell this obsolete pistol!), and the S&W Bodyguard. Other "bargains" that aren't: S&W Sigma series and the later SVE-series guns, 70s and 80s-era Taurus semi-autos and ultra-cheap .380s.

Continued on page 18.



LARRY RINKENBERGER
PRESIDENT

HOURS:
MON-SAT 9 - 8
SUNDAY 10 - 5
RANGE CLOSSES 1 HOUR BEFORE

815-838-1371
FAX 815-838-1372

14363 S. ARCHER
LOCKPORT, IL 60441

WWW.RINKSGUN.COM
EMAIL: INFO@RINKSGUN.COM
LIKE US ON FACEBOOK @RINKSGUN



THE BULLET TRAP

279 North Front St. | Macon, IL 62544

Indoor Range & Simulator!

Retail Store:

- Firearm Sales and Consignment
- Ammo
- Holsters
- Pro Shot Cleaning Supplies
- Range Bags and Accessories
- Hearing and Eye Protection
- Accessories

Services:

- Transfers
- FOID and ILCC application assistance
- Facility rental
- Simulator Parties
- Gift Cards

Classes and Events:

- Leagues
- Date Night
- Private Classes & instruction
- Marksmanship classes
- ILCC and Renewal classes (weekly)

Hours:
Mon/Wed/Fri/Sat: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tues/Thurs: 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sunday: CLOSED

217-764-5678
WWW.THEBULLETRAP.COM



It could happen to you or me, too.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

Innocent man has Woodridge, IL PD sticking guns in his face, threatening to “end” him

(GSL) - While the vast, vast majority of police-citizen contacts are handled professionally and courteously, there are exceptions. Woodridge, IL PD it seems needs some training when it comes to bringing professionalism to policing. What their officers did to an innocent member of the community last year was unconscionable and it could have happened to any of us.

Last year, Derrick House was driving home through Woodridge when an unmarked squad car roared up behind him and then blocked him in on the side of the highway. Plainclothes officers poured out, guns drawn and pointing

at him. The cops shouted an assortment of commands, some contradictory, when they weren't threatening to “shoot you in the head” and “end you.”

Great police work it wasn't. Moreover, Derrick House was an innocent man. The license plates of a wanted vehicle didn't match his, neither did the number of occupants, or the model or color of SUV. Derrick House is a productive, respected professional in the community. The cops didn't care.

Woodridge PD didn't treat him with professionalism or courtesy. Instead they treated

him like dirt. The cuffed and stuffed him. One of the cops even told his fellow officers not to answer *any* of House's questions. Of course, as an innocent man, House had lot of questions.

Their behavior fails the reasonable person test on every level. As such it's no wonder Mr. House has retained counsel and filed a multi-million dollar lawsuit in the matter.

Thank heavens Mr. House didn't have a gun that day. Those cops, already almost itching to shoot him, might well have opened fire.

We called the Woodridge PD and asked the chief in a message if the officers' actions and demeanor in the bodycam video from that day was standard operating procedure in their department, but he didn't get back to us. Go figure.

What should you do in this situation?

You have your gun and some bullies with badges pull you over and stick their guns in your ear, screaming at you like you're John Dillinger. What do you do?

First off, hands up. Keep your cool. Practice deep breathing relaxation techniques and think before doing anything.

If you're hearing conflicting commands, identify one officer as the one you'll listen to and follow his or her commands.

Warn them you have a CCW and you have “it” (don't say “gun”) on you. Ask them how to proceed.

Don't complain about going face down in a mud puddle. You'll wash up and clothes can be cleaned. Gunshot wounds are forever. The humiliation will sting, but deal with it.

Don't argue with the cops on the side of the road and there's no need to be nasty. **Remember, you're on bodycam.** Politeness and a calm demeanor will play well for a jury at a later civil trial if it comes to that. Acting like a jerk, even for righteous reasons, won't add another zero to an award at civil trial. In fact, it might reduce an award dramatically.

If you feel the officers acted unprofessionally in any contacts you have with them, file a complaint. If it's Derrick House bad, retain counsel and file a lawsuit as Derrick House has done. The cops get the final word on the side of the road. You get the final action in federal court.



Florida cop fired, sued after negligently discharging a man's gun as she needlessly disarmed him on traffic stop

(GSL) - A Jacksonville (FL) Sheriff's Office deputy was fired from her job and sued after negligently shooting a legal and responsible gun owner while needlessly disarming him on a traffic stop.

Jason Arrington was described as “cooperative” on a traffic stop but the officer wanted to disarm him. As his fellow deputy removed the Glock from Mr. Arrington's holster, she discharged it, wounding him in the leg, causing substantial bleeding.

In Illinois, our CCW law says that officers can relieve you of your carry piece(s) during a traffic stop. Our advice: always comply with whatever the officer wants. At the same time, you can warn Officer Not-So-Smart that if he/she screws up what's basically an unsafe act and shoots you accidentally, you will see him in federal court on a civil rights lawsuit. Then you can politely ask how they would like to proceed.

If you as a CCW holder are cordial and respectful on a routine traffic stop, 99% of cops are going to be at ease with you having that gun. That's a good thing, because taking someone else's loaded gun out of their holster, even with their consent, is a negligent discharge waiting to happen.

Blacks 10.38 times more likely to be denied

YOU DON'T SAY! Watchdog group uncovers serious racism in NJ CCW denials

(Shooting News Weekly) - The racist roots of gun control date back to postbellum United States. Laws and policies were enacted to keep black Americans from keeping and bearing arms. Almost 160 years later, New Jersey was one of the so-called “Bruen-affected” states that was forced into issuing concealed carry permits after the landmark ruling was handed down. Now a nonprofit named Rise Against Hate has released a study about permitting in the Garden State and it's not good.

“Permit-to-Carry Outcomes In New Jersey: A County-Level Analysis (2019-2014)” went live on February 7, 2024. The data for the study is published by Harvard University and what the organization found is that systemic racism – in deep blue states like New Jersey – is still alive and well in their firearm permitting schemes.

The authors state in the overview that they have “uncovered significant findings, such as the statistical fact

that Black individuals are 52.6 times more likely to be denied a permit compared to their White counterparts when adjusted for population size in Ocean County.” The study goes on to reveal that,

“Across the state, Black individuals are 10.38 times more likely to be denied a permit compared to their White counterparts when adjusted for population size.”





Visit Central Illinois' Premier Indoor Shooting Range & Gun Store!

- 16 Lane, State-of-the-Art Heated Range
- Beginners to Advanced Level Firearms Classes Offered – Sign Up Now Online
- Illinois Concealed Carry Classes – Only \$179
- Rent our Firearms – Over 50 Rental Firearms Available to Try Before You Buy
- We Buy and Trade Used Firearms
- Range Membership Packages Available
- Book Your Private Parties, Corporate Meetings, and Fundraising Events
- USPSA Pistol Competition Every Tuesday Night
- Gunpowder & Glitter Monthly Ladies Night Event








INDOOR RANGE • FIREARMS • TRAINING

700 WYLIE DRIVE NORMAL, IL 61761

309.820.1008 • WWW.CISHOOTINGSPORTS.COM

What to do when faced with an 'active shooter'

by Lawrence Peterson (Battleswarm Blog) - I've known Karl Rehn for over two decades. Founder and owner of KR Training, a certified NRA instructor, Master Class tactical handgun shooter, and teacher of SWAT teams and other first responders from around the country... Here are his takes on an active shooter:

What do you do?

What to do? **Take action.** There is no one universal action that is guaranteed to work in all situations, because all of these variables are in play:

- weapon(s) in use by the shooter
- shooter's ability
- your distance from the shooter
- what others are doing around you
- features of the building or environment you are in

If the shooter isn't in the room you are in now and isn't aware of you, escape, moving away from the sound of the gunfire. If you are in a room with no avenue of escape except toward the gunfire, lock the door and block it to deny the shooter access to that room.

Find something to get behind that might stop a bullet, and find something (or multiple things) that you could use to defend yourself should the shooter gain access to the room. Anything that can be thrown or swung like a club is better than empty hands.



Fight back with improvised weapons. Those who resist live. Those who cower die.

If you are in the same area as the shooter, try to gain the element of surprise and counterattack as aggressively as you can with whatever weapons you can improvise. Public authorities cannot advise citizens to fight back out of fear of liability if citizens are injured or killed fighting back.



The lessons of previous active shooters incidents are that **those that do nothing do not survive.** Those that take action have better odds. Go back and read the accounts of the survivors of Virginia Tech. Those that fled quickly, locked and blocked doors and took other defensive actions lived and/or saved others.

Armed citizens?

The only difference is that the armed citizen will have some weapons available.

Armed citizens are not police officers and have no specific duty to use deadly force to save others or even in their own self defense. Any person moving within an area where there is an active shooter could be mistaken for the shooter by responding officers and shot or killed. There is great risk in an armed citizen going into "hero mode", both from the shooter and from responding officers. Choosing to do anything beyond protecting yourself is a very personal decision. *Some*

students have told me that they simply could not retreat in a situation where they could save others, regardless of the risk.

Unarmed friends, associates, and family members of those who regularly carry need to understand that in this type of situation, they need to refrain from doing or saying anything that would cause the armed person (off duty officer or armed citizen) to lose the critical element of surprise in a counterattack.

What are the best ways for bystanders to respond to minimize the death toll for future incidents?

The most important step each adult should take is to understand that when seconds count, professional help is minutes away. Every adult should learn enough self-defense, first aid and firefighting skills to be able to take action in that critical period between the start of the incident and the arrival of professional help. That means getting training in armed and unarmed self defense, CPR, basic first aid, how to use a fire extinguisher — skills that might keep you and those you care about alive until better equipped, better trained help can arrive.



Know how to apply a tourniquet / Israel Battle Dressing. Bonus points for being able to do it while minimizing your exposure to gunfire.

Holden | Doing the right thing

Chaplain Steve Holden spoke at the Springfield GSL meeting at SCHEELS, sharing his remarkable journey as a chaplain for first responders for over 30 years. He worked in New York City following the September 11th, 2001 attacks, as well as Katrina.

He shared stories about "ordinary" men who did remarkable things in the face of adversity, sometimes causing them mental and emotional distress. Holden also shared some colossal mistakes some made and the lives lost as a result of it.

Perhaps the most important part of his presentation came at the end. He urged people to forgive and be kind no matter what the downsides for doing so might be. He urged each of us to be as successful as we can possibly be while being honest.



Chaplain Steve Holden.

Also to build great things, to be happy and to do good. "Give the world your very best," he told the audience.

For it's not what other people think of you for doing good and righteous things. It's because you're doing those things for God.

Lt. Col. Dave Grossman's first ever

Bulletproof House of Worship Safety Conference

Thursday, April 24 - Saturday, April 26th

Central Christian Church, 301 N 10th. St., Mount Vernon, IL

(GSL) - The Department of Homeland Security's 2024 Homeland Threat Assessment details a heightened threat environment in our nation, and that certainly applies to houses of worship. Terrorists, political extremists and social misfits all have an axe to grind with Christians, faith-based institutions and religious-themed public gatherings.

The Family Research Council identified over twice as many incidents ranging from vandalism to arson to violence against US churches in 2024 compared to 2023. Incidents are not only growing but accelerating.



With all that in mind, one of America's foremost experts on mindset Lt. Col. Dave Grossman will be headlining a three-day Bulletproof House of Worship Safety Conference April 24-26, 2025 in Mt. Vernon, IL. He has a host of nationally-known speakers lined up to share important information and even some tactics for church security folks nationwide.

Topics include:

- Do you have the right mindset?
- Lessons learned from The New Life Church tragedy
- Verbal De-escalation
- Tragedy in Sutherland Springs, TX
- The aftermath of use of force
- Sex crimes prevention
- Protecting the flock
- Explosive devices
- What does the prepared person look like on Sunday?
- Stopping the killers
- David Grossman's *Bulletproof Mind* presentation




Tickets are just \$80. Register at bulletproofworship.com

[Editor's note: GSL not only endorses this event but **strongly recommends** church safety and security team members attend.]

Zancha's

Guns & Ammo INC.



Over 950 firearms in stock!

Reloading Supplies

Garrett & Minelab Metal Detectors in stock!

108 E. State St.

Lovington, IL 61937

217-873-6567

guns@zanchasguns.com

www.zanchasguns.com

M-F 10am-6pm

Sat 9am-4pm

BUY*SELL*TRADE

IL Concealed Carry Classes & Renewal Classes

Buck, Case & Cobratec knives in stock!

Fishing & Hunting Licenses

Guns Save Life, DeWitt County Sportsman's Club and GSL Defense Training partner together to offer...



FREE GUN SAFETY TRAINING for Education Professionals

ILLINOIS 16-HOUR CONCEALED CARRY CLASS

GSL Defense Training is offering a FREE 16-hour, ISP-approved Illinois Concealed Carry Class (Essential Carry) to faculty and staff of public and private schools in Illinois. This offer is available for everyone from the superintendent to educators to support staff including cooks and janitors. If you work for *any* school in *any* capacity, or teach/coach in any capacity, you're eligible. Yes, even the Fire Service Institute or a daycare facility. This is a one-time offer, and subject to availability.

June 21-22, 2025

At the DeWitt County Sportsman's Club near Clinton, IL



This class is for educators and those working in public education - especially those who aren't sure about guns or who are maybe afraid of guns or certainly anxious around guns.



Our instructor team will patiently work with you to make you an expert at gun safety. We'll help ease your concerns and anxieties concerning guns. Should you choose to become a gun owner afterwards, we'll empower you with the knowledge, skills and abilities to use that firearm ethically and legally in self-defense.

Why do we do this? In short, our passion to empower good people and to potentially help save the lives of innocent men, women and children.

After successfully completing this class, you'll be an expert at making a gun safe should you or one of your kids or students encounter a gun.



You'll understand the legal, moral and ethical considerations about using force, and deadly force. You'll understand some of the unpleasant things that happen should you be forced to use force, deadly or otherwise, to defend your life of that of another innocent person.



To help you form a decision of whether or not to invest a weekend of your life, we encourage you to read additional information at the GSLDefenseTraining.com

website.

Loaner guns and gear available at NO CHARGE. Don't have a gun? No problem. We have lots of loaners and we won't even make you clean them at the end of the course.



Participants will need to bring 250 rounds of either 9mm or .38 Special practice ammunition. Don't have a FOID card? Class sponsors will have limited quantities of ammo available for roughly our replacement cost (about \$60 to \$100 depending on caliber).

For those for whom ammunition costs would serve as a financial hardship for their families, contact us. We have a limited amount of ammunition donated by a Guns Save Life member couple that we will provide at no charge on a first come, first served basis. This is purely on the honor system.



Learn safe, defensive gun handling skills

Whether you're a new gun owner or an experienced shooter, GSL Defense Training can help. We help build the skills and mindset to use a handgun safely and effectively. We want you to stay safe!

Our fifteen-plus extensively-trained instructors, both male and female, bring diverse backgrounds and experiences to your benefit. They'll give you a solid

foundation so that you can safely and confidently use your firearm for recreation or to defend yourself and your family.

With practiced lawyers presenting lethal force discussions, you can get answers to your legal questions and clarification of the laws on the use of deadly force. Not only that, but GSL Defense Training is also one of the

few companies that excels at working with people with disabilities.

Over the past 25+ years, we've trained well over 4000 people to shoot and carry firearms safely and efficiently. Our classes are for anyone who wants to feel safe at home or out in public. Ordinarily, tuition for this class is \$200 per person.



GSLDefenseTraining.com

FOID cards are not required for enrollees, but we recommend applying for them ahead of time at ISPFSB.com. **Loaner firearms are available for use at no charge, but enrollees will be responsible for bringing 250 rounds of ammunition for the course. Drinks and snacks will be provided. Enrollees will need to bring their own lunches. To enroll, download and complete the registration form from the Essential Carry page at GSLDefenseTraining.com. Once received, we'll e-mail you a welcome letter with a map and directions, recommendations for hotel accommodations and what to bring.**



Armed American

You don't have to be a helpless victim. Empower yourself. Become a gun owner.

Decatur woman wounded in shootout fending off three home invaders... while holding her baby girl on her hip



Decatur, IL (WAND) - Alexia Templar was woken up to the sound of shattering glass and footsteps inside her home on the city's east side near Hill Park around 4 a.m. Monday. She was home alone with her two young children when she saw two people standing inside.

She gathered her children and told the intruders to leave or she would shoot them. According to Templar, they started immediately shooting at her. She shot back, but was hit once in the arm and once in the hip. According to a sworn statement from the Decatur Police Department, this was the same hip she was using to hold her infant daughter.

After the intruders left, her boyfriend arrived and she was taken to the hospital. Neither bullet did serious damage, Templar said...

Later that morning, officers were dispatched to a home for a report of a man having been shot. The man, 24-year-old Deonte A. Stone, was later interviewed at the hospital by a detective.

According to the sworn statement from DPD, Stone told the detective that he was contacted by a 16-year-old boy he knew who had a plan to commit a burglary and split the proceeds. Another person Stone knew was also involved in the burglary plan, Sophie, later identified as 25-year-old Colton L. Clark.

In the statement, Stone said the three went to Templar's home with guns and forced their way through a basement window. Stone said they heard a woman scream that she was armed and that they should get out. He said that he turned away from the bedroom and that is when he was shot in the back. Stone said the teenager is the only person who shot at Templar, and that neither he nor Clark fired their guns...



Deonte Stone, left, and Colton "Sophie" Clark.

Stone was charged with home invasion, while Clark and the 16-year-old were charged with attempted murder, home invasion, and aggravated battery with a firearm. Stone and Clark were booked into the Macon County Jail, while the 16-year-old is currently being detained at the Peoria County Juvenile Detention Center.

PROTECTION OF FAMILY IS A DUTY



ARE YOU UP TO IT?



Handcrafted Custom Knives

Dorian Mosack, Bladesmith
Army Veteran
2-time *Forged In Fire* Contestant

309.339.3224

whiskeycityforge.bigcartel.com

whiskey_city_forge_

whiskey_city_forge_



WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

Guns Save Life's LIFE MEMBERSHIP!

Guns Save Life is proud to announce our "Life Membership" for those who wish to show an exemplary level of support towards Guns Save Life and our mission defending your right to defend yourself.

The new "Life Membership" is available for \$1000, and for those aged 65 and over, it's available at half-price, \$500.

Be among the third 100 individuals to step up and help us defend your right to defend yourself with a life membership to Guns Save Life.

To sign up for this new Life Membership option, fill out the form on the back page of this issue of *GunNews* and send it in today.



NRA 2.0: Why it's time to elect a new NRA

by Theresa Inacker

(Shooting News Weekly) - The NRA is at the crossroads between opportunity and danger. Members are demanding change and the "Elect A New NRA" slate is prepared to be that change.

Members will receive their election ballots beginning this week in the centerfold of their NRA magazines. A slate of 28 reform candidates are running on a platform of integrity and transparency, attempting to replace the 'old guard' that enabled Wayne LaPierre and others to self-deal and undermine the confidence of members, resulting in millions of dollars in legal defense expenses, some of which has been recouped from Mr. LaPierre. This is a battle of the old guard and the reformers.

A total of 49 candidates are running for a seat on the Board this time around. Only 28 of the 49 are reform candidates in support of NRA 2.0. The NRA 2.0 slate is concerned with the status quo of the organization, and the internal issues that have impacted the mission, transparency, lawsuits and more.

The NRA should get back to its mission of creating and support shooting programs, furthering firearm safety and education, and competitive shooting. The NRA used to be the behemoth in the room, and it has slipped out of place. The infrastructure is there to build upon and now is the opportunity.

A full list of candidates and their extensive biographies and statements are available at www.electanewnra.com.

Remember folks, the Fudds walk among us

I'm a firearm instructor and RSO both for the NRA and military. The three day waiting period is whatever for me. I don't need instant satisfaction.



I have walked into two suicide scenes in my life and one was with a gun he purchased within two days. It may save a few people in crisis.

I don't like that you can get one here with zero training, nevermind carry with zero training in the state. I was almost shot a few times by dudes trying to quick draw a glock or trying to clear a misfire. Uneducated is the most dangerous, in my opinion.

These are my opinions.

— Silent_Phase_8768 at Reddit

"Silent Phase" has since deleted his Reddit account.

Join Guns Save Life today.



Membership application on back page of GunNews



Are you ready to play 'Cowboys and Terrorists'?

THE SECOND AMENDMENT



MAKING MORE WOMEN EQUAL THAN THE ENTIRE FEMINIST MOVEMENT

GunNews Magazine

The monthly journal of
Guns Save Life

John Naese, Editor Emeritus
johnnaese1@comcast.net

John Boch, Editor Emeritus
jboch@gunssavelife.com

Letters, including complaints or commendations, to the Editor are welcome. Please, limit your letter to 200 words. We reserve the right to edit or refuse publication of any submission. Anonymous letters are discouraged. Guest columns of 400 words are also welcome on timely issues, particularly those related to firearms, self-defense or similar topics. Letters and guest columns may be sent electronically to: jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Or you can mail your letter to: Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, Illinois 61874



Our thanks goes out to Oleg Volk for his continued permission to use his creative work to help us in our gun rights advocacy work. You can see more of them at his websites:

a-human-right.com
blog.olegvolk.net



901 Detroit Ave Suite C Morton IL 61550

Mon-Fri 11-7, Sat 10-6

(309)291-5164

kamrange.com

Need a CCL class?

16 hour full class \$125

8 hour class \$65

3 hour renewal \$50

We offer 3 CCL classes a Month

Just want to shoot?

Lane fee \$18

additional shooter \$10

there is never a time limit

You can shoot your own ammo

Need additional Training?

Private Instructions \$40

Self Defense class \$75

Memberships start at \$325 a yr.

NRA Instructor Training

Need a firearm?

Over 500 guns in stock

New and Used, buy, sell trade

\$10 rentals, try before you buy

FREE rentals on Fridays

Come and enjoy a clean safe range to shoot at. All of our staff are NRA certified Instructors and our range is air conditioned & heated

We offer Veteran, LE, and First Responder discounts, but already have the best prices in town

You can sign up, and pay for all of our classes online at **kamrange.com** or call us at (309)291-5164, or just stop in and see us

Let us Help you Uphold your 2nd Amendment Right



What makes a gun a gun CHARACTER

by Ken Frey

(GSL) - To me, a gun is deep blued steel and beautifully rich grained hardwood furniture. There's nothing better than hunting with a beautiful gun!

There are exceptions like the receiver could be polished or have a case colored finish with a deep blued steel barrel. Engraving is nice and gold leaf accents are the frosting on the cake.

I had a semi auto Browning shotgun that was like that. It had a polished aluminum receiver with engraved flying pheasants filled with gold leaf on each side. Its 26" inch deep blued barrel had removable chokes and beautiful hand rubbed tiger striped walnut furniture with deep hand checkering.



I hunted with it for many seasons taking countless bunnies, pheasants and oh the ducks! But alas, it got talked out of my hands by a friend who wanted it more.

I usually don't regret selling a gun but that one has a soft spot. It was a magnificent shotgun and shot beautifully.

Even my knockabout shotgun is all blued with some type of stained hardwood furniture. As a matter of fact, all my long guns look like that.

What happened to guns? Why are most guns today nothing but black plastic furniture with some black rough texture finish on the steel parts.



One of the main reasons is that they're cheaper to produce. There's less work involved to put a black textured finish on the steel. That textured finish hides all the imperfections in the steel that would have to

be polished away by human hands in order to have a deep rich blue finish. It's the same with the wood too. There's much less work involved for the plastic molded furniture. No cutting, no sanding, no finishing, just pop it out of the mold and trim away any flashing.

In the world of retail sales, people vote with their dollars opting for a cheaper less aesthetically pleasing looking gun in order to save a few bucks.

Then there's the camouflaged crowd. They pay more for a gun because they think the game won't see it.

I know a guy who accidentally dropped his camouflaged gun when climbing into the stand. It blended perfectly with the brush below, he couldn't find it for 30 minutes!

People forget about the guns of yesteryear which their Fathers, Grandfathers and Great Grandfathers used. They harvested just as much game if not more with those beautiful guns of blued steel and wood.

I hear you saying, "it's too nice a gun to take hunting and it will get scratched". BS! Ever see an old used gun on the rack at the gun store? The bluing is half worn off and has scuffs and scratches in the furniture. That gun was new at one time. It was the pride and joy of the previous owner. They carried it proudly afield or deep in the woods on plenty of hunting trips. If only it could talk about the hunting trips and the game it took.

Depending on what you want to use it for, that old gun could be brought back to life with a few hours of work or left alone to use as is.

As far as getting a new gun, yes it will eventually get scratched and the bluing will wear but that will take years, maybe even a lifetime if you're just a bit careful with it.

I want to be proud of my gun whether I'm hunting or it's displayed in my gun rack. They are truly beautiful pieces of working art.

Call me old fashioned but I'll never hunt with a piece of fantastic plastic. So the next time you're looking for a gun, spend a few extra dollars and get one that's as pleasing to the eye as it is to shoot. In the long run you'll be glad you did!

AFFORDABLE SELF-DEFENSE

Continued from page 11

Did I mention Hi-Points? If I ever recommend a Hi-Point pistol to you, it means I really don't like you.



No.

HiPoint C9. Sometimes called a Yeet Cannon.

Holsters. Generally, try to stick with American made kydex holsters (and avoid the no-name Chinese-ium on Amazon and Temu). One high-quality, affordable inside-the-waistband rig is Bravo Concealment's Torsion line. These sell for about \$30 and are available for many popular models. Some stores may have them or you can order online from Amazon. These are generally pretty comfortable, durable and conceal your piece nicely inside the waistband. They are my go-to rigs.

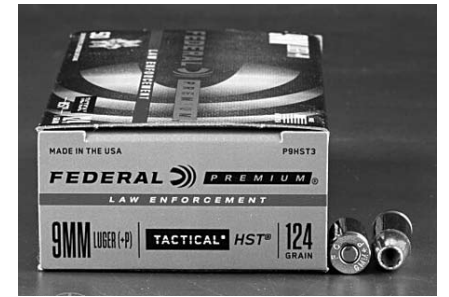
Avoid: Outside-the-waistband holsters for concealed carry, along with "one size fits all" holsters and ones that collapse on themselves when you draw the gun.



5.11 TDU belt, although not ideal, will suffice for carrying a gun, etc. Bonus points: it has a plastic belt buckle so you don't have to take it off every time if you're a frequent flyer through metal detectors.

Belt. You'll need a decent belt, and what you can buy at Dollar General is not gonna cut it. If possible, buy a good leather or nylon belt to keep everything close to your body when carrying. They will cost you \$50-\$75 for the ones with stiffeners built into it. For the budget crowd, 5.11's "TDU" belts (get the 1.5" wide version) won't self-destruct after a couple of weeks carrying a gun everyday and sell for \$22 or less on

sale. It's not ideal, but for those watching every dollar, it's a good compromise.



Any American-made ammo from a major manufacturer is ideal. Bonus points for something police use. This particular load is arguably the best 9mm defensive round available currently.

Ammo. Buy any major American manufacturer's hollow-point ammo for defensive purposes. It transfers energy into a bad guy much more effectively, reduces the likelihood of over-penetration if your bad guy is skinny, and if you miss, hollow-points are less prone to ricochets. How much do you buy? At least 50 rounds. I'd recommend function testing a box to make sure they work in your gun, but if you can afford only one box of ammo, get that box and cross your fingers it works.

To avoid: full metal jacket practice ammo for self-defense applications, and anything with a stupid names like "DRT"/"Dead Right There." Avoid "reduced recoil" loads for semi-auto pistols as they are a touch more prone to malfunctions in most guns. Some European-made stuff has hard primers (which some guns won't reliably fire), so avoid those if you can't function test them before counting on them to save your life.

In closing...

So yes, there are plenty of very affordable options out there for self-defense that don't involve spending a \$1000 just to protect your home and family from bad people with evil in their hearts.

Stay safe and happy shopping. And happy shooting.

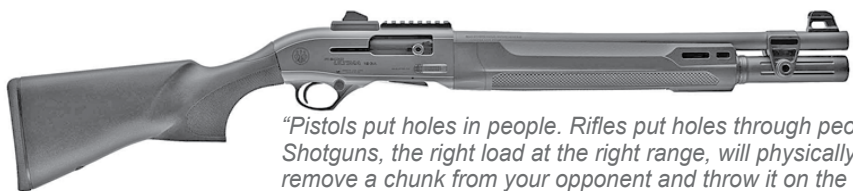


I am asking for your vote for the NRA Board of Directors



Richard "Dick" Fairburn

GSL Member Canton, IL



"Pistols put holes in people. Rifles put holes through people. Shotguns, the right load at the right range, will physically remove a chunk from your opponent and throw it on the floor behind him." - Clint Smith; Proprietor Thunder Ranch

Beretta A300 Tactical review

By Damon Williams
GSL Member

American gun owners are drowning in a plethora of Turkish made budget shotguns on the market today. Some are direct clones of current, more expensive, models.

Several years ago, I bought a semi-automatic version of one of these guns for combat style competition shooting. While I made several modifications to improve its performance and ergonomics, it never ran as reliably as I needed it to run. I cannot define why, but the clones just do not perform as well as the originals. When you lose faith in your competition gun, something must change.

My research revealed that the guns that I wanted, either a Benelli M4 or a Mossberg JM940, were excluded as choices from me because the Springfield troglodytes needed to "Protect Illinois Communities". While the Benelli only has a five-round magazine, it has a pistol grip. While the Mossberg has a traditional stock, it has a seven-plus magazine capacity.

During the election campaign, Tampon-Tim Walz proved, on camera, to the entire world, his ineptitude in handling his Fudd version of a Beretta A300. (Wood stocks; three-round capacity.) A300? Isn't there a tactical version of that gun called the Ultima Patrol? I wonder if they make a version of that gun in a tactical model that won't make JB Pritzker stomp his feet and whine? Sure enough, Palmetto State Armory sells an iron-curtain legal five-round magazine version.

What is the A300 Ultima Patrol? The premier model of Beretta's competition shotgun is the 1301 Tactical. For \$1500, it has all the mods, bells, and whistles serious competitors demand in a performance competition firearm.

The A300 is the little brother to the 1301 Tactical. Nearly identical in appearance, each has features that the other doesn't. The 1301 has a rotating bolt face and a high-speed gas system known as the "Blink" system. While super-fast, this increased cycling speed is only advantageous to the highest-level competitors.

Possessing a different gas system, the speed of the A300 is no slouch, and will hold its own when compared to the M4 or the JM 940.

The A300 also features a recessed loading port to accommodate quad loading, and a fiber-optic front sight. Features not found on the 1301.

More importantly, it holds a price tag about \$500 cheaper than its big brother.

My first impression upon delivery was how light and well balanced the gun is. Like the 1301, the controls are oversized, easy to access, easy to operate, and smooth. As too, is the action. It points and swings naturally with aggressive texturing on the polymer stocks for a positive grip.

One would think that being a light gun would equate to harder recoil; this is not the case. I do not currently know exactly how the gas system works, but I get the impression that it

somehow only utilizes the gas that it needs to operate the action and vents the excess off. This translates to manageable recoil and faster re-acquisition of the sight picture.



Yes, it's a shotgun women can easily handle with a little coaching.

All the shotgun models that I have previously mentioned possess a feature which allows an extra round of capacity. The practice is known as "ghost loading". On most shotguns designed to drop the carrier when the bolt is in battery, an extra round can be manipulated to ride the carrier below the bolt. Five in the mag, one in the chamber, and one on the carrier is seven, and it's legal. In your face AG Raoul!

When all of this PICA nonsense is quashed by the courts, the A300 magazine capacity can be upgraded in less than 5 minutes for around \$75. (Carlson's magazine extensions are currently available on eBay.)

To test its performance, I loaded a Federal target load, a buckshot load, a 3" magnum slug, a hand loaded trap load, and a three-inch turkey load all in the same magazine.

The A300 handled all of them in sequence without the slightest hesitation. I played with ghost loading; flawless. Twin loading (because I have not yet learned the dexterity of quad loading)? It will take some getting used to, but I could do it right away.

My overall price tag for the A300 was \$1200 with tax, shipping, and FFL transfer. Yes, it is spendy, but it is still \$500 cheaper than its big brother, the 1301. It is my opinion that the features offered by the 1301 are just not worth the extra expense for a mediocre competitor such as myself. The A300, without a doubt, will hold its own against its rivals, the M4 and JM 940.

[Editor's note: The pump shotguns from Turkey are usually great entry-level guns. The semi-autos, on the other hand, suck. I bought one of those Turkish semi-autos on sale for \$200 at SCHEELS. It wouldn't fire three shots without a malfunction, sometimes two. It shot 27" low and left at 25 yards. I wrote a scathing review that was so caustic that my editor at The Truth About Guns refused to run it.]

I've handled two others by different makers. They shared the same flaws with reliability and sighting issues. Frankly, I'm not convinced that they're not all made in the same factory by the same intoxicated staffers with just different name badges on the guns.]

BERCK | BODY ARMOR



(GSL) - Body armor has become very affordable in the last generation and its availability to everyday Americans has grown by leaps and bounds. Yes, prices have come down and online marketplaces now recognize that we all have a right to protect ourselves, not just police and other "special" persons.

Not only that, but technology has advanced giving us more effective options with much less weight. So says Chad Berck who joined us at the Pontiac GSL meeting to talk about armor for everyday people.

Armor started in the Middle Ages, if not before. Today, it's come a long way even from the 1970s, with options ranging from concealable "soft" armor to much less concealable "plate" armor which stops rifle rounds.

Modern armor panels are placed in a fabric carrier to protect the vital thoracic organs. The user can wash the carrier from time to time but the armor panels should not be washed. Concealing armor brings the added bonus of not tipping off attackers that the wearer is protected. Nothing says "shoot me in the groin or head" like a hard plate carrier worn over your clothes.

Today, affordable soft armor starts around \$200-\$300 on sale, give or take. Sure, it'll be bulkier, thicker, stiffer and heavier than the pricier vests, but for those on a budget it's an option to protect your life. For those really on a budget, a person can pick up "gently worn"/used ballistic panels in a new carrier for a little over \$100.

On the other end of the spectrum, Safe Life Defense has a very concealable vest less than two-tenths of an inch thick (pictured top left) that sells for about \$1100.



Safe Life Defense "Hyperline" vest. \$1100ish.

Armor also comes in very discrete packages. You can buy inserts for your kid's school bookbag, heavy t-shirts that hold a ballistic soft panel (or hard plate for the hard-core), and vests and jackets with ballistic protection that few, if any, would recognize as body armor.



\$189 from Premier Body Armor.

Hard plates that stop rifle rounds started as AR-500 steel, but those are quite heavy... like 30-40 pounds with ballistic carrier. Plus the bullets striking these plates will create spall and those lead fragments will do nasty things to your neck, jaw and other soft body parts.

Then ceramic plates became available to civilians, offering steel-like protection without the spalling and at a fraction of the weight. The newer, present day "hard plate" protection comes in varying thicknesses, at increasingly affordable prices. What was once \$1500 or more per plate is now lighter, thinner and available for \$200-\$300. A little more money will buy still thinner and lighter plates - even ones marginally concealable. And when walking or hiking, ounces feel like pounds and pounds equal pain.

A newer hard plate made from UHMWPE (ultra high molecular weight polyethylene) offers as good or better protection than the ceramics in a lighter, thinner package. Of course, you pay (dearly) for that added concealability and wearability.



When it comes to protecting your noggin, you can go with the "Fritz" kevlar helmet introduced in the mid-80s or you can opt for the new high-cut helmets made of much lighter material. The new helmets also have attachment points for comms, illuminators, night vision, batteries, cameras and so much more. Prices on these have also dropped dramatically to a few hundred bucks, while weights and thicknesses have also slimmed down.

Chad had a number of sets of armor, basically to outfit his family. Just in case things go sideways and/or civilization breaks down. Furthermore, he admits that his own ballistic vest and plate carrier, with all of his added accoutrements, weighs the better part of 50 pounds which will slow most young people down, to say nothing of older folks.

Do you or your family need armor? That's a cost-benefit analysis you have to do for yourself. But at least options exist and you don't have to go unprotected if forced to work or travel in unsafe areas.



Storage Containers For Rent or Sale

Containers Available in the following sizes:

8x10' - 20' 8x8 - 40' 8x8

40' 8x9.6 - 48' 8.6 x 9.6

Perfect for seed or chemical storage

MEL PRICE CONTAINERS

1938 N. Bowman - PO Box 1637 - Danville, IL 61832

217 442-9092
prcml@yahoo.com

217 304-1722
melpricecontainers.com



vs.



The poor man's power bank

by John Boch

If you've got money to burn and are just dying to buy one of these new silent, battery-powered "generators" to run some small electrical devices in the home in event of a power outage or while camping, you can buy a Jackery unit or similar competitors' models.

For those on a budget not intimidated by connecting power cables to a battery and a charger now and then, you can build your own for half as much.

No, it won't be quite as neat and tidy, but for the money you save, you can buy a portable rolling tool box to neatly store/transport it along with a couple of drop cords, 3-way splitters and still be way ahead of the game.

Let's start with a baseline... the 1000W Jackery runs about \$800 at Amazon.

We can do a lot better. First, you'll need a 12.8v 100Ah LiFePO4 battery. These sell all day long for \$150 or less on Amazon. You'll also need a 20A LiFePO4 battery charger (about \$60) and last but not least, a pure sine wave inverter. These are available for under \$100 now for 1000w units. To fancy it up, you can add in a battery box for \$20 and you're golden.

Add it all up and you're looking at just over \$300 plus your rolling toolbox, or you can strap the inverter to the top of the battery box and call it a day.

Want to up your game to 2000 watts to run more stuff at the same time, or to accom-

modate small motor start-up loads? No problem. Substitute in a 200Ah LiFePO4 battery (about \$300 or less) and a 2000watt inverter (about \$150-200) and you're good.

With the larger battery, you can still stick with the 20A charger, but I'd recommend a 40A or 50A charger (mid-\$100s) to expedite charging that bigger battery during an outage when you have (limited) access to generator power.

Still, you're talking \$650 plus your handy-dandy rolling toolbox to keep your cords, splitters, charger, etc all neatly packaged together. Or you can spend \$1500 for a 2000-watt Jackery.

Where these shine: Do you have some small loads you want to run without the noise of a generator, say at night? Especially in a sketchy neighborhood with ethically challenged, low-impulse control criminals, these can fit that bill nicely.

When else? When it's bone-chilling, Jussie Smollett cold outside and you don't want to drag out a conventional generator. Or in heavy downpours - because playing with electricity in a driving rain isn't the smartest thing to do. These power banks will tide you over for a few hours. They are also great for camping.

Something else to consider: For the same \$350ish you can buy an entry-level 2000w gas-powered inverter generator (they run quietly) that won't quit on you when the battery becomes discharged. What's more, "recharging" it is as simple as adding gas and restarting it.

Aluminum foil is your friend

If you're not familiar with something called electromagnetic pulse (EMP), you should look into it. Basically, it's a surge of electromagnetic energy caused by a solar flare or by a nuclear weapon detonated high in the atmosphere. It fries sensitive electronics.

You can prevent damage to those sensitive electronics by storing them in a Faraday cage. You can google how that works, but suffice it to say, if you insulate your sensitive electronics (like a generator, inverter, radios, etc), and then wrap them in aluminum foil (use the heavy-duty version), you stand a very high likelihood of your protected devices working should America suffer an EMP caused by either natural (solar) or man-made causes.



For devices you don't use on a regular basis, it only takes a few minutes to thoroughly wrap/protect them. Do it today while you can.

For generators, save the boxes. Oftentimes they come in nested in a pair of cardboard boxes. I'll usually pull the generator out, fill it with oil, then run it for a 24-hour break-in period. After that, I change the oil, remove the last of the (stabilized!) fuel, run it out of gas in the carburetor, then once it cools, wrap it up and return it in the box. It's ready to go after adding fuel at a later time.

I thoroughly wrap the inner box with aluminum foil then put it back into the outer box and put it into storage.

Your unused inverters? Keep the boxes they came in and wrap them like Christmas presents with foil. Then write on the foil what's inside and store them for later use.

Radios, including HTs, shortwave, scanners and any other electronics (computer/tablet?) you want to work after an EMP also get the same treatment, although there are "Faraday bags" specifically made to block EMP energy and protect small electronics stored within.

Those same bags also block your electronics from communicating your location. Just sayin'.



When gas is scarce, know how to get the most kWh per gallon!

Maximizing efficiency in inverter generators

by John Boch

We have run articles in recent months about the importance of portable generators to protect and preserve your family's life, health and property in event of a utility outage.

Generators, particularly the newer "inverter" generators, will power medical devices (CPAPs anyone?), sump pumps, refrigerators and freezers, and furnaces. They'll also run tools with which to make repairs in the aftermath of storms. They allow you to do so much. It's no wonder why those affected by Hurricane Helene say that "life revolved around the generator."

These modern inverter generators are light (translation: easily portable), quiet (they don't serve as a beacon for the criminal

element, especially at night), fuel efficient and they produce pure, sine-wave electricity that sensitive electronics and motors love.

Even better, prices have come way down in the past twenty years too. You can find a 2000w inverter generators for well under \$400 today. Meanwhile 4000+ watt units routinely sell for under \$700. You may have that much



money tied up in meat in your refrigerator and freezer!

Do you know how to maximize the efficiency of your gas-powered inverter generator?

Johnny's Weekends on YouTube ran a semi-scientific test of two generators - both Hondas. He had a carburetor-fed EU-2200i and an Electronic Fuel Injection (EFI)-equipped EU-3200i. He measured electrical production in kilowatt hours (kWh) for a water bottle worth of gas. A kWh is a 1000 watt load running for an hour. I translated that into kWh/gallon for ease of comparison.

On the carb-fed EU-2200i, he got 4.05kWh/gal at 25%, 5.26kWh at 50% and 6.02kWh at 70%. In other words, he got 48% more energy production running it at a high load.

On the EFI-equipped EU-3200i genset, at 25% capacity, it produced 4.92 kWh per gallon, 6.77kWh at 50% and 7.15kWh at 70%. Again, he achieved 45% more energy production at a 70% load compared to running it with a 25% load.

Sure, the run-times are shorter at the higher outputs, but the efficiency per gallon is (significantly) higher. And when you don't want to run out of gas before you run out of emergency, that can be kind of important.

As you probably noticed, the generator with electronic fuel injection delivered about 18-20% greater fuel efficiency. EFI units, however, are pricey. Most folks probably won't justify that added expense for something rarely used. Besides, that extra \$600+ will buy a lot of gas and stabilizer to sock away ahead of an emergency.

If you have to run a generator for small loads (CPAP, sump pump, etc.), either buy a 1000W inverter genset (about \$200) or extra fuel.

Speaking of gasoline storage.

Store winter-blend gas as it has more of the high-volatility additives that aid in cold-weather starting. Call those additives "the good stuff."

You can count on getting winter blend fuel from mid-November through April. Sure, it's made starting in September, but you want to give it time for the summer stuff to get replaced in the bulk tanks at your local station.

Store your stabilized fuel in tightly sealed containers to keep this "good stuff" from evaporating out of the can. Today's new-fangled jugs have dysfunctional spouts, but they seal up very well. Don't worry about the spout thing. Instead, buy a fuel transfer pump from Harbor Freight for about \$13 to neatly and effortlessly pump the gas out of the cans into your vehicle, generator or other equipment.

When it comes to stabilizing your fuel, most folks know about "Stabil", but it only protects fuel for a year. There's better stuff out there. Star-Tron fuel stabilizer uses enzymes to protect stored fuel for two-plus years. Meanwhile PRI-G will store fuel for "years." I use it and rotate (premium gas) every other year, but your mileage may vary. Hint: I use colored masking tape around the gas can handle to signify the year the fuel was purchased, stabilized and stored away.

Recommendations.

If gasoline re-supply poses (or may pose) a challenge, prepare your workspace to get the most out of your fuel. After all, would you rather help recover from a disaster or emergency or stand around waiting in line for hours for a ten-gallon ration of gasoline?

What's more, if it's inclement weather, waiting will prove... unpleasant.

Have your loads ready to plug in (or switch on) once you have the generator up and running for a minute or two. Get those batteries ready to charge. Ditto for your appliances. Have your tools ready to go. Make that genset work by running it at about 50-75% the rated capacity where you can. Don't over-do the loads because the electronics inside Mr. Genset will get hot if you run them near their rated capacity for extended periods of time. Excessive heat and electronics don't play nicely together.

If you're the guy with a 5000 or 6000 watt generator - especially if it's one of the old, gas-guzzling generators like your dad used to use - you really should keep your eyes open for a sale on a *much* smaller inverter generator. I can run the very basics in my 1800 sq. foot (all-gas appliance) household with a 2000-watt generator. Then again, I don't have any teenage girls with blow dryers or curling irons. A 4000-watt generator will have less momentary voltage sag when higher-draw appliances (think microwave, de-humidifier, and *ahem*, blow dryers) start.

If you want to run your central air conditioner and have electric appliances, you're going to need a static whole-house system planted on a pad next to your home. Those start around \$5000 (plus thousands more for the electrical panel upgrades) and eat a lot of natural gas when running. No natural gas delivery? No power.

Brands? If you have the coin, it's hard to beat Hondas. For those of us who don't have four-figures in the checking account, Harbor Freight's Predator line are very highly rated and affordable. Watch for sales.

There are countless other Chinese made units that come with smaller displacement motors found in stores and online for dirt cheap prices. They require you to add your loads one at a time to avoid bogging down the motor when power-hungry appliances kick on, but can take care of your basic needs without breaking the bank.

For example, at Runnings in Pontiac, they have a 2200-watt inverter generator on sale for \$299. Amazon has a slew of roughly 2200 watt units in the \$300s - delivered. Heck Aldi of all places had one for \$199(!) a couple of years ago. I still watch for a repeat of that offering. I'll give them away as Christmas presents if that happens again.

Bottom line: Now you know to run your generator at about 2/3rds its rated capacity to get the best fuel efficiency. Sure the run time will be shorter, but you'll wring the maximum amount of work from each ounce of fuel burned. You also know to stabilize your stored winter-blend fuel in tightly sealed containers and it'll stay ready to serve you for at least a year, or even a couple of years easy, depending on the stabilizer used.

Here's to never needing a generator, but we all know sooner or later we're going to face a power outage. The only question is how long it will last and whether or not you'll be prepared so you don't lose everything in your fridge and freezer and have your basement flood.

Debating about spending the money to buy your first generator? Even if you don't have a basement or a CPAP, ask yourself how much it would cost to replace the food in your fridge and freezer(s). Then act accordingly.

Sullivan Gun Club

2025 Events... Mark your Calendar! All open to public.

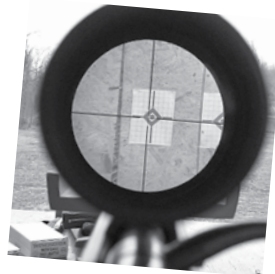


Bowling Pin Shoots

Reminder: Kids shoot free!

Mar 8, Apr 12, May 3, Jun 7, July 12, Aug 9, Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1

subject to weather-related cancellations



Rimfire Shoots

Reminder: Kids shoot free!

Mar 22, Apr 26, May 17, Jun 21, July 26, Aug 23, Sep 20, Oct 18, Nov 15

subject to weather-related cancellations

**Trap Shooting every Friday night
Open 6pm - Derby at 7pm**

Matches start at 9a.m.

\$10 per firearm. Kids free.

Sign-in and warm up starting at 8a.m. All dates are subject to the weather. Follow us on Facebook for updates.

Sullivan Gun Club, LLC

1458 State Hwy 121
Sullivan IL 61951

Give the gift of membership!

Gift Certificates available year-round.

\$35 for individual membership.

\$60 for family membership.

Gift certificates available at Zancha's Guns & Ammo in Lovington. Or send a check to Sullivan Gun Club LLC c/o Tracy Bettinger PO Box 584 Lovington IL 61937.

Calendar



GUN SHOWS...

March

Mar 1-2: Kankakee Gun Show, Kankakee County Fairgrounds Kankakee, IL. Mike 630 254-0221 or Julia (630) 363-3131.

Mar 9: Kane County Sportsman's Show, Kane County Fairgrounds, St Charles, IL. Mick Stout (815) 217-2266

Mar 29-30: Sauk Trail Gun Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, Princeton, IL. Marla P. 815-252-4842

GUN CLUBS

Foosland Sportsman's Club

Shooting opportunities open to the public at the Foosland Sportsman's Club.

Second Tuesdays: 6p Tuesday night trap shoots

Fourth Saturday: Trapshoot starting at 10 AM. All open to the public.

Second Sunday: Annie Shoot/.22 steel plate shoot.

DeWitt County Sportsman's Club

Breakfast, 1st & 3rd Sundays 8:30am.

Sullivan Gun Club LLC.

Every Friday night: Trap shooting under the lights. Open at 6p, Derby starts at 7pm.

Oak Park Sportsmen's Club.

Falling steel match **First Mondays** starting at 4:30pm.

Springfield Tactical Shooters Indoor Gun Range in Curran, IL.

Thursdays: Weekly tactical matches at 5pm. Open to all.

Crete Gun Club.

Monthly meetings at 7pm on the **First Monday**. 1962 W. Exchange, Crete, IL. Open to all. Contact Howard Kaye at fxrt1984@gmail.com or 708 921-6768.

State Line Rifle.

Monthly meetings at 7pm on the **Fourth Tuesday** each month. American Legion, 111 E. Main Street, Round Lake Park, IL 60073

Prairie State Tactical.

All shoots 5-7:30p unless otherwise noted.

Feb 25: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms

Mar 4: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)

Mar 11: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms

Mar 18: Prairie State Tactical - Pana (Locked and Loaded)

Mar 25: USPSA Night at Effingham Accuracy Firearms

For more info, visit prairiestatetactical.com.



FRIENDS OF NRA...

Mar 1: Madison County at Collinsville VFW Post 5691 in Collinsville.

Mar 6: McHenry County at VFW Post 4600 in McHenry, IL.

Mar 8: Northwestern, IL at Eagles Club in Freeport, IL.

Mar 8: Shoal Creek at Farm Heritage Museum in Greenville, IL.

Mar 13: South Eastern IL at Smoke Rise Steakhouse in Olney, IL.

Mar 15: Kishwaukee Valley at Ferandas in Dekalb.

Mar 22: Macoupin County Patriots at Concordia Hall in Staunton.

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.



TAX MONIES FUNDED GUN CONTROL ORGS

Continued from cover.

support diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) programs.

The flow chart of money laundering operation is a labyrinth of middlemen, which reports that no tax dollars were spent. But that's not true. A little digging shows that nearly \$7.5 million were funneled to Bloomberg's Everytown, mostly through donations paid to NEO Philanthropy, including \$245,000 from the The Board Of Trustees Of The Leland Stanford Junior University, \$150,000 from the Tides Center (a George Soros organization), \$12,000 from Civicus World Alliance, \$300,000 from the Kaiser Foundation Hospitals and a whopping \$6,748,000 from Fidelity Investments Charitable Gift Fund.

This maze of money shuffling is being mapped out by DataRepublican.com. That site offers tools to track how tax dollars have been moved to gun control groups. That includes the Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, which took in \$12,809,748 in contributions, which started with the Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening reporting \$186,143,739 in taxpayer funds that was moved through many as five layers of "charities" to fund their efforts. Bloomberg's March for Our Lives, showed \$1,407,153 in donations that started with \$165,142,739 in taxpayer funds.

Sandy Hook Promise, a Connecticut-based gun control group, reported \$1,417,049 us taxpayer funds in their coffers, according to DataRepublican.com. Everytown's mapping shows \$31,802,725 in contributions with \$4,963,214 in grants. DataRepublican.com shows Giffords with \$8,292,189 in contributions, that started with the same Consortium for Election and Political Process Strengthening tax dollars, moving through, again, at least five layers of charities.

Look Who's Talking

This unmasking of citizens' tax dollars being put to work against their constitutional rights is raising the ire of those who – surprise, surprise – want to use more tax dollars to further limit Second Amendment rights. U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy (D-Conn.) claims President Trump's efforts to bring accountability to taxpayer expenditures is "attempting to seize control of power, and for corrupt purposes," according to The Hill. U.S. Rep. Jamie Raskin (D-Md.) said "This illegal, unconstitutional interference with congressional power is threatening lives all over the world," according to another report in The Hill.

Shakespeare wrote in Hamlet, "The lady doth protest too much, methinks." Those politicians crowing about the

secretive manipulation of tax dollars against the interests – and the very rights protected by the Constitution – should be a five-alarm bell for taxpayers, not just gun owners. It might also pull back the veil of why these same lawmakers rail against the Dickey Amendment that states, "none of the funds made available for injury prevention and control at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention may be used to advocate or promote gun control." NSSF reported in 2022 that an investigative report by The Reload showed the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was likely violating that law as recently as then.

A federal judge temporarily blocked Elon Musk's DOGE from accessing government systems to dig up the wasteful and damaging money laundering of tax dollars after 19 Democratic state attorneys general, led by gun control advocate New York State Attorney General Letitia James, sued.

To pull another line from Shakespeare's Hamlet, "Something is rotten in the state of Denmark." Or in this case – Washington, D.C.

--Larry Keane is SVP for Government and Public Affairs, Assistant Secretary and General Counsel of the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

GUN NEWS



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE VOLUME 22, NUMBER 8 AUGUST 2016
AFFILIATED WITH JPFO, CIVILIAN MARKSMANSHIP PROGRAM, NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, ILLINOIS FEDERATION FOR OUTDOOR RESOURCES, ISRA, AND OTHERS

Advertising Opportunities

GSL currently prints about **23,400 copies** of *GunNews*, distributed primarily in Illinois to members and select distribution sites. We have members in 39+ states.

Description	Dimensions	Single	4+	Annual	Total annual
Full page	10.375"x12.375"	\$250	\$200	\$150	\$1800
Half page vertical	5" x 12.375"	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$1200
Half page horizontal	10.375" x 6"	\$150	\$125	\$100	\$1200
Quarter page vertical	5" x 6"	\$100	\$80	\$65	\$780
Quarter page horizontal	10.375" x 3"	\$100	\$80	\$65	\$780
Eighth page vertical	2.5" x 6"	\$65	\$50	\$40	\$480
Eighth page horizontal	5" x 3"	\$65	\$50	\$40	\$480
Sixteenth page vertical	2.5" x 3"	\$40	\$35	\$25	\$300
Sixteenth page horizontal	5" x 1.5"	\$40	\$35	\$25	\$300

Ad Submission Information

Email ads to jboch@gunssavelife.com or mail on media to *GunNews*, PO Box 51, Savoy, IL 61874. For payment and scheduling, email jboch@gunssavelife.com.

Guaranteed full-color ad placement is twice the rate price with limited availability. Please inquire for availability. Submit ads in .pdf format, with at least 300dpi resolution. See your application for help / instructions.

Advertising deadline: Please submit advertising by the **SECOND TUESDAY** of the month for the following month's issue. For instance, submit by the second Tuesday in March for inclusion in the April issue.

The Armed Women of America

Find a Local Chapter

Visit ArmedWomen.org to find a local chapter.



Rev. Jerry McAfee at George Floyd square.

'Violence interruption' is a borderline scam

'Violence interrupter' makes death threats over looming funding cuts

Minneapolis (Star-Tribune) - A prominent north Minneapolis pastor interrupted a Monday Minneapolis City Council committee meeting and made threatening statements, then doubled down in a Facebook Live video posted Tuesday night.

The Rev. Jerry McAfee — whose non-profit has done violence prevention work for years — brought a council committee meeting to a halt Monday when he interrupted the meeting and went on a five-minute rant about the council considering temporarily moving some violence prevention programs to Hennepin County...

McAfee suggested in subsequent social media posts that he half expected to be arrested. He doubled down in a Facebook Live post Tuesday night, in which he said "Rev. McAfee ain't hittin' nobody. I ain't shot nobody. However I will if I have to. I don't want to."

Transgender student planned Valentine's Day Massacre at Indiana school

Mooresville, IN (WXIX/Gray News) - A high school student in Indiana is accused of planning to kill masses of students at his school on Valentine's Day.

Authorities said 18-year-old Trinity Shockley is facing conspiracy to commit murder and intimidation charges, Morgan County court records show.



Transgender Trinnity Shockley.

Authorities said the 18-year-old's motivation for the school shooting was to prove to Nikolas Cruz that he was his "number one fan."

Investigators said Shockley planned to commit the crime at lunchtime "because that would present the most target-rich environment."

Investigators explained that Shockley identifies as a transgender man and often goes by Jamie or Dex.



'Trump prepares to wipe out years of progress on gun violence'

Mother Jones hyperventilates over gun rights for the little people

(Mother Jones) - "Trump's priorities couldn't be more clear. Spoiler: it's not protecting kids. Gun deaths finally went down last year, and Trump just moved to undo the rules and laws that helped make that happen," said Natalie Fall, Executive Director of March For Our Lives, in a statement. "He is going to get Americans killed in his thirst for vengeance and eagerness to please the gun lobby and rally armed extremists. Remember the next time that a mass shooting happens, Trump did everything in his power to enable it, not prevent it."



Gasp! Oh noes! 29 billion views!

Young people watching gun videos on YouTube

(Breitbart) - A younger, more diverse generation of gun owners has emerged, and is emerging, via a sub-platform on YouTube known as GunTube.

The New York Times says the new gun fans, "drawn to tactical training and self-defense, are regularly watching firearms videos..." As a result, the videos have "drawn more than 29 billion views" via the GunTube subculture.

The Times notes: "...Guntube is its own sprawling community. Some guntubers have cult followings, and there is an industry awards event known as the Gundies, a riff on the Dundies from the sitcom 'The Office.'"

The paper added, "Much like video game streamers, some guntube stars make thousands of dollars per video."

Buyer's remorse yet? GSL supported him because he's never successfully managed anything in his whole life... not even a woke pillow company

David Hogg took just days to wear out his welcome as DNC vice-chair

(PJ Media) - It's been less than two weeks since conservatives cheered when the Democratic National Committee was dumb enough to elect David Hogg as the token white male vice chair. Well, we got the first laugh, and it looks like we're going to get the last laugh because Hogg is already causing headaches for the Democratic National Committee, with insiders accusing him of exploiting his new role for personal gain.

Just two weeks into his tenure as a DNC vice chair, Hogg has been using the

party's contact lists to send out donation requests for his own political action committee, Leaders We Deserve PAC, which pays him over \$100,000 a year, according to Federal Election Commission records.

"David Hogg — talk about living up to your name. A trough of DNC dollars all for him and he doesn't seem to give an oink," a top Democrat told The New York Post.

Britain no longer great... in fact it's lost

Britain's answer to migrant crime? Tougher knife control

(Western Telegraph) - People trying to buy knives online will face tougher measures to prove their age under new restrictions being brought forward in the wake of the Southport knife attack.

Axel Rudakubana, who has admitted murdering three young girls last July, bought a knife from Amazon when he was just 17, despite existing laws which prohibit the sale of most knives to under-18s.



The victims.



Axel Rudakubana.

Please pass me a box of tissues

White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention closed on Trump's 2nd day

(ZeroHedge) - Second Amendment advocates are celebrating, and gun control activists are decrying the apparent closing of the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

The Trump administration has not confirmed that the office, opened by an executive order from then-President Joe Biden in 2023, is closed.

Nashville school where teen killed classmate had no metal detectors — because administrators thought they are racist

(NY Post) - The Nashville high school where a teen gunman killed a fellow student last week had no metal detectors — apparently because administrators think they could be racist.

A former board member told The Post that the misguided administrators are responsible for keeping them out even over many parents' objections.

Milwaukee PD puts down 'woke' would-be spree killer... story buried by legacy media

Milwaukee (WFRV) — An officer with the Milwaukee Police Department was seriously injured after a man with a semi-auto rifle shot at responding officers on Wednesday morning.

According to the Milwaukee Police Department, around 11:50 a.m. on February 12, officers got word of a man in the 700 block of North 27th Street who was firing shots from a 'large gun' while walking down the street.



When officers arrived, the armed suspect was ordered to drop the gun. The man reportedly ignored the orders and allegedly began to shoot at responding officers.



One more time for all the mask-wearers: Guns aren't just for old, fat white guys anymore

(The Hill) - In the wake of President Trump's election in November 2024, one of my healthcare providers, who lives with her female partner, purchased a 9mm pistol for home protection. She is not alone.

Several reporters have reached out to me to discuss the post-election surge in gun ownership in the LGBTQ community. Some political leftists in my area have formed a mutual-aid group that includes sharing gun-buying information, tips on concealed carry courses to take (and avoid), and trips to the gun range to practice shooting. My contacts at the Liberal Gun Club and African American gun clubs tell me they are seeing interest in their firearms training classes grow dramatically.

Although newsworthy, as a sociologist who has spent the past 13 years studying American gun culture, I know none of this is new.



Other scholars have documented the history of gun owner diversity in America. Law professor Nick Johnston's "Negroes and the Gun" explores the deep roots of what he calls "the black tradition of arms" in American history. In "Real Knockouts," women's studies scholar Martha McCaughey traces armed "physical feminism" back to the 1970s. Anthropologist Joe Anderson examines a firearms training group run by transgender women in San Diego that echoes Jonathan Rauch's call for armed resistance by gay people a quarter-century ago in his Salon essay "Pink Pistols."

This longstanding diversity of gun owners has accelerated not just in response to President Trump's election but as part of a broader shift in the center of gravity of U.S. gun culture, from its traditional focus on hunting, recreational shooting and collecting to its contemporary emphasis on self-defense. It's an evolution from what I call Gun Culture 1.0 to Gun Culture 2.0, and its significance cannot be underestimated.

Gun Culture 2.0 is more diverse and inclusive than America's historic gun culture because, unlike hunting, for example, security is a universal human concern. People will do what they can in response to feelings of uncertainty, insecurity or threat. Some will get

a dog or buy a home security system; others will join Nextdoor or move to a gated community. And many perfectly normal people will respond by buying firearms.

This is precisely what happened in the 10 weeks leading up to Trump's inauguration.

Although we do not yet have generalizable data, the buying conditions resemble those of 2020, when record gun sales were sparked by the COVID-19 outbreak, then fueled by protests for racial justice over the murder of George Floyd and sustained by a contentious presidential election campaign.

We know from this earlier gun buying spree that many who got swept up were new and diverse gun owners primarily concerned with self-defense. According to the 2021 National Firearms Survey fielded by researchers from Harvard and Northeastern Universities, 1.5 percent of all American adults (3.8 million people) became new gun owners in 2020.



Compared to existing gun owners, they tended to be younger, more female, more Black and Hispanic, more urban, more likely to have children and less likely to have ever been married. They were also more likely to own only handguns, suggesting their defensive orientation...



Guns are divisive enough in American society without the caricatures that frequently circulate. To build a better gun debate, we need to ground our arguments in the diverse reality of contemporary gun culture outlined here.

**BE A GOOD FRIEND:
Sign up a friend for only \$20 more**

Renew or sign up for a new membership in Guns Save Life, and you can sign up a friend for an annual membership for only \$20 more! If you sign up for multiple years, you can sign up multiple friends, too. Share the love!



Join the Guns Save Life family today!

Membership in GSL is just \$30 annually (\$40 starting May 1st) and that allows us to continue our work at the local and state level defending your right to defend yourself. Membership has its privileges as well!

- **Get GunNews delivered to your door every month.**
- **Stay up-to-date on the latest news & information**
- **Learn strategies & tactics to keep your family safe**
- **Discounts with some legal coverage providers**
- **Pride of ownership in our famous highway signs**
Yes, you may call them "your own" when telling friends about them.
- **Members-only Legal Defense Fund.**
Access to legal support for those who are victims of subject to inappropriate or unjust firearm-related arrests, as well as arrests following justifiable use of force in self-defense incidents.

Sign up online at: **GunsSaveLife.com/join**

SIGN UP HERE!

Clip this application and mail it along with your check to
Guns Save Life, PO Box 51, Savoy, IL 61874

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State and Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(for urgent alerts only)

We need your email to allow you access to Members' Only content on the GunsSaveLife.com website.

Membership:

- o \$30 - Annual membership / Renewal
- o \$20 - Sign up a friend *(with regular annual membership or renewal)*
- o \$90 - Three-year membership / Renewal
- o \$60 - Sign up three friends *(with a three-year membership/renewal)*
- o \$50 - Family membership
- o \$150 - Family membership three-year
- o \$50 - Business membership
- o \$1000 - Life membership
- o \$500 - Life membership for over age 65

\$ _____ Total enclosed. Is this a gift? From whom? _____

Mail this form and payment (checks payable to Guns Save Life) to:

**Guns Save Life
PO Box 51
Savoy, IL 61874**

Contributions or gifts to Guns Save Life are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.