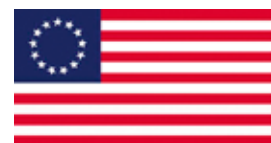


WE DEFEND YOUR RIGHT
TO DEFEND YOURSELF.

COMPLIMENTARY. TAKE ONE.

GUNNEWS

CELEBRATING OUR
30th
ANNIVERSARY



SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS AND MORE

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE, INC.

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 8

AUGUST 2023

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



Darnall's NRA Youth Shooting Camp returned after a three-year hiatus caused by the Wuhan Flu. Here, Doug M., one of our GSL Defense Training instructors works with one of the younger shooters. More on page 14.

Biden regime's backdoor scheme to keep guns from Americans

ATF'S WAR ON DEALERS

by John Boch

(GSL) - Meet Russell Fincher. He's a high school history teacher, Little League coach and a Baptist pastor in Tusahoma, OK, home to 151 people. He had an FFL and organized some gun shows. As such he fell squarely in the sights of Biden's BATF and its new mission to eliminate FFLs across America.

personal guns and told him things would go easier for him if he relinquished them.

Fincher says the agent in charge of the raid - Special Agent Theodore Mongell - told him "You tell all your FFL buddies we are coming for them. We are shutting the gun shows down."

licenses by vastly expanding the reasons for revoking licenses. The BATF also eliminated agent discretion and views any mistake, even clerical errors, as "willful" violations of the law. In fact, Biden's new rules even use a past history of flawless compliance against dealers who are found to have made one of those trivial mistakes.



Russell Fincher.



Knock Knock

But it gets better, BATF is using a computer algorithm to determine if they will revoke a license. And appeals of revocations have less than a 5% success rate.

Joe Biden's handlers have found a wildly successful manner in which to throttle the supply of guns making it into the hands of American consumers. We'll have to wait and see if the courts allow this as lawsuits have already been filed.

Stay tuned.

Indeed, ATF revoked 92 licenses in 2022, three times the number of those in 2008. But that number pales in comparison to an over 1000% increase in relinquished licenses following compliance inspections from 2020 (96) to 2022 (1037).

In part, the BATF helped cajole those surrendered

Following an inspection which found penmanship issues and a juxtaposed model number with a serial number, BATF showed up in SWAT gear in June. They handcuffed Fincher for an hour until he agreed to surrender his FFL license. But before they left, they packed up fifty of his

JOIN US

Quincy GSL Chapter Launches Wednesday, August 30th

Guns Save Life proudly announces the launch of our Quincy GSL Chapter. Our Quincy Regional Director Glenn Sanders has us slotted for Wednesday evening, August 30th at the Eagles Club (3535 North 5th Street) in Quincy. Dinner and conversation at 6pm. Meeting program begins at 7pm. Mark your calendars for the last Wednesday of every month for a fun and exciting GSL event in Western Illinois.

Inside

Help available for FOID &
carry license applicants

page 4

Use the correct ammo

page 9

Smart devices

page 12

DERECHO!

page 13

Guns are NOT the leading
cause of death in children

page 20

Join GSL.

page 24

August 2023

- **Quincy:** Last Wednesday: **August 30**, September 27
Eagles Club, 3535 N. Fifth Street, Quincy
- **Chicagoland:** Last Sunday: **July 30**, August 27, September 23
American Legion Post 1198, 1631 Western Ave. Chicago Heights
Exhibits and conversation here at 4:30pm. Program at 5:30pm.
- **Sangamon County:** First Monday: **August 7**, September 4 at MCL Cafeteria
SCHEELS, 3801 S. MacArthur, Springfield
- **Pontiac:** First Tuesday: **August 1**, September 5
Pontiac Sportsman's Club. 18663 4-H Park Road, Pontiac
- **Decatur:** First Wednesday: **August 2**, September 6
Coz's Pizza, 1405 East Village Parkway, Mt Zion
- **Peoria:** First Thursday: **August 3**, September 7
Barrack's Banquet Center, 1224 April 6. Pioneer Parkway, Peoria
- **Danville:** Second Monday **August 14**, September 11
Ela's Restaurant, 1111 E. Voorhees St., Danville
- **Champaign County:** Second Tuesday: **August 8**, September 12
KC Hall, 1001 N. Ohio St., Rantoul
- **Northwest Chicagoland:** Second Wed: **August 9**, September 13
Prairie House Tavern, 2710 Main St., Buffalo Grove
Dinner and conversation here at 5:30pm. Program at 6pm-ish.
- **Charleston:** Second Thursday: **August 10**, September 14
U Hotel Conference Center, 920 West Lincoln Ave, Charleston
- **LaSalle County:** Second Thursday: **August 10**, September 14
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.

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Sights from the sites across IL



Attorney Tom DeVore hit it out of the park at Charleston's GSL meeting.



GSL's Tim Weir with our gun winner and 50/50 winner Andy M.



LaSalle Regional Director Glenn Pratt with gun winner Bill H.



Ron B. won a gaggle of ammo in Rantoul.



Our Danville Regional Director Jack Land with gun winner Tom B. who won a VERY nice S&W EZ 9mm Performance Center gun.



Nicole Sanders from the John Birch Society spoke in Peoria.



Alfreda Keith Keller leads our Chicago-land meeting.



Jeff Olson with a repro Brown Bess in Decatur.



Mary V. won the Glock 48 in Peoria. She's with RD Richard Parks.



Linda Potter speaks at our Danville meeting about Friends of NRA.



Our Decatur Regional Director Bill Hutton with Glock 48 winner Richard M.



Ron Beatty on Carcano rifles in 8mm.



Ryan McClure brought sports memorabilia and talked about the thrill of collecting (as many of us love to collect guns). He brought autographs from historical figures including Jackie Robinson (above), the first black in Major League Baseball. He also had one from the Olympic icon Jesse Owens, another black man who made history.

CHICAGO INSANITY CONTINUES

And they wonder why they've got a violent crime and gang problem...

Prosecutors who don't prosecute...



Cook County prosecutors didn't even charge the case!

Attorney steals Chicago Fire Dept. ambulance, lead cops on chase, pleads guilty to a misdemeanor

(CWB Chicago) - An attorney who allegedly stole a Chicago Fire Department ambulance in Chinatown last year and then led police on a 75-mile chase to downstate Dwight, Illinois, has pleaded guilty to a reduced charge, according to Grundy County court records.

On Thursday, Benjamin Herrington, 46, entered a guilty plea on a misdemeanor charge of criminal trespass to a vehicle.



Thank you Kim Foxx!

Would-be home invader shot by Lincoln Park homeowner faces misdemeanor charge

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A misdemeanor charge has been filed against the person who was shot by a Lincoln Park homeowner last week. Britney Moring, 28, is charged with criminal trespass to a residence, according to Chicago police records...

Police said a man who lives in a home on the block fired at [Mr. Moring] to prevent [him] from entering his home. The [homeowner] is licensed to carry a concealed weapon, according to the media statement.

They hate us

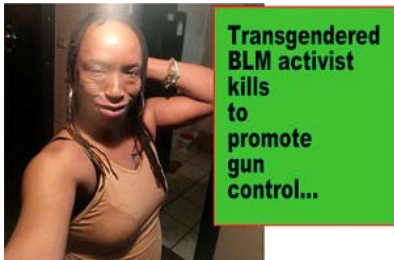


1381 times the median income in America! Guns & security for me, but not for thee

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg spends at least \$43M for security

(Post Millennial) - Meta CEO and founder, Mark Zuckerberg, has paid \$43 million for personal security. At the same time, a family-run foundation of his has donated millions to "defund the police" organizations.

According to journalist Lee Fang, since 2020, the Chan-Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) has donated \$3 million to PolicyLink, the organization backing DefundPolice.org.



Who takes advice on public policy from a mass murdering, cross-dressing lunatic?

Philadelphia transgendered perp says he killed to help the city 'do something' about 'gun violence'

Philadelphia (Enquirer) - The shooter accused of killing five people during a harrowing rampage in Southwest Philadelphia Monday night told police the shooting spree was an attempt to help authorities address the city's gun violence crisis, and that a deity would be sending more people to help, according to sources familiar with the investigation.

Meeting Summaries

Chicagoland

Our **Chicagoland Regional Director Alfreda Keith Keller** called our June 2023 meeting to order at the **American Legion Post 1198** in Chicago Heights. The Legion sent their apologies as they lost two of their staff to illness so we did not have food. They're expecting to return healthy for our last Sunday in July meeting.

GSL's Executive Director John Boch

shared his Executive Director's Update, covering both local, state and national news and analysis, but also an update on legislation and litigation.

Howard Kaye spoke in his role as **President of the Crete Sportsman's Club**. He invited everyone out to their meeting on the first Monday of the month at 1962 W Exchange St. in Crete.

Our primary speaker for the evening could not make it so we held our drawings. **Art L.** won the **Taurus .38** carry gun on a ticket purchased via mail or at another meeting location. Congrats to him!

Pontiac

As the **First Tuesday fell on Independence Day** we did not have a **Pontiac** meeting on July 4th. We'll return on August 1st at the **Pontiac Sportsmen's Club**. We look forward to seeing everyone! Come hungry as they prepare great food every month at affordable prices!

Decatur

Our new **Decatur Regional Director Bill Hutton** did a great job in his first night in the new role.

Since both Dans (Cooley and Caulkins) couldn't make it because of the holiday, **John Boch** launched into his **Executive Director's notes** and took questions.

From there, our main speaker **Gary Larson** discussed the **Orville Dunham Gun Collectors Association** that meets on the third Monday in Decatur. If you like guns and learning more about guns in general and collectibles in particular, Mr. Larson says this is the place for you. They meet at the **American Legion Castle Williams Post 105** at 1535 Legion Drive in Decatur.

Named after the owner of a Decatur gun shop owner from the mid-1900s, they invite guest speakers to talk about a particular type of gun or about a single specimen. Gary says they've had rare and sometimes super-valuable guns on display for people to look at and handle over the years. In many ways, it's like Guns Save Life's Tech Time presentations, and similarly history often comes to life at the meetings.



Jeff Olson and the Brown Bess.

For Tech Time, **Jeff Olson** brought a **Brown Bess** reproduction musket, just like the one most British troops used during the Revolutionary War. The flintlock .72 caliber muzzle-loader effectively had no sights but Olson said a skilled shooter could hit a man-sized target at up to 100 yards. However, in that era, the British didn't really aim, rather they practiced volley fire against a line of opposing troops or whomever captured their ire.

Next month, "old ammo" is our Tech Time. Bring yours... and "old" is in the eye of the beholder. Yours might be a 1980s package with a 1980s price tag, or yours might be cartridges with head stamps from a hundred years ago.

Richard M. won the **Glock 48** pistol, courtesy of **Zancha's Firearms in Lovington**.

Thanks to **Mr. Hutton** for a great job and we apologize for missing the invocation by **Pastor Stephen Holden**.

Peoria

Richard Parks, the **Peoria Regional Director** called the meeting to order and he made a couple of announcements. He asked for one or two regular or semi-regular attendees to help with drawing tickets ahead of the meeting. Also, he asked folks to try to pre-register with Barracks so our gracious hosts have a better handle on how much food to prep.

John Boch brought folks up to speed as part of his **Executive Director's Report**.

Following John, **Dave Zalar** from The **Association of Mature American Citizens *AMAC*** talked up the "conservative" alternative to AARP. It's non-partisan, but it lacks the woke, anti-gun positions of AARP. With over five million members, according to Zalar, it's become a force to be reckoned with. What's more they offer tools everyday people can use to make a difference at the local, state and national level. You can contact him at dfzalar@gmail.com or 309-229-6040.



Dave Zalar.

Next up, **Nicole Sanders** of the **John Birch Society** delivered a great presentation on the **United Nations** and its work on "**Global Gun Control**" to not only disarm us, but their war on private property.

The UN knows that Americans won't surrender their guns willingly, so they're using lots of buzzwords and lofty-sounding goals to finesse disarmament until such time they can legislate them out of existence. They claim that disarmament will save humanity, save lives and make the world a peaceful and happy place. Because we all know that there was no tyranny or violence against weaker people before guns came along.



The UN would like to be the only ones with guns in their utopian world. No thanks.

Interestingly, the UN is also campaigning for governments to disarm as well - because

half-literate UN peacekeepers have never been exposed as brutal tyrants or rapists before. (*That's sarcasm.*) But when they're the only people with guns, **those who turned their swords into plowshares will plow for the UN.**

Sanders also talked about the UN's "Sustainable Development" plans which are basically an attack on private property, including both home ownership and car ownership. These "sustainable" plans go all the way to the neighborhood level. She showed a number of them for Peoria neighborhoods as an example. The UN's grand plan is to have everyone live in big cities and declare areas outside of those "environmentally sensitive" and ban people from those areas. They would even fine people for leaving their cities for any reason - including vacations or to visit family.

We held our drawings and **Darrell S.** won the 50/50 and donated almost all of it back to GSL. Thank you sir! **Mary V.** won the **Glock 48 via Kam's Sporting Goods in Morton**. As you might imagine, she had a big smile.

Danville

Our new Danville chapter ran much more smoothly this month at **Ela's Eatery** on Vorhees Street. Come hungry for good food! They're opening just for our meeting!



Ela's Eatery.

Regional Director Jack Land called the meeting to order with a **prayer from Tom**

Barrett. After our customary opening protocol, Mr. Land thanked **Ela's Eatery** for hosting us and **Gross Burgers, Ray O'Herron's and Dunham Sporting Goods** for donations.

Hank Judd from **BFF Firearms** in Danville donated this month's gun, a **Shield EZ 9mm Performance Center** piece. Many thanks to BFF!



John Boch shared his **Executive Director's Notes** and took questions.

Linda Potter took the floor to talk up the **Friends of NRA** programs and our local **Salt Kettle FNRA** group. Illinois has a very active, all-volunteer Friends program, raising more money than Texas! The funds are split between local youth shooting, range development and similar activities and similar national programs. Salt Kettle has a three-gun drawing going currently.

Stepping up to talk about **Cowboy Action Shooting**, **Steve Starwalt** shared a little about the fun and excitement of Cowboy shooting. SASS, the **Single Action Shooting Society**, has shoots across the nation with western-themed costumes, scenarios and, of course, guns from the Wild West. He says it's generally laid back and a whole lot of fun. Locally, they shoot on some private property.

Hank won the 50/50. **Tom B.** won the gun, a **Shield EZ 9mm Performance Center**, again provided as a donation by **BFF Firearms in Danville**.

Continued on page 18.

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!

Chicago July: Maverick 88 12ga.
Chicago Aug: Taurus 856 3" .38 Spl.
Chicago Sept: Ruger Security 380

Peoria Aug: S&W .38 Special

Pontiac Aug: Taurus GX4 TORO 9mm

Decatur Aug: Bodyguard .38 Spl.
Decatur Sept: BlueLine 12 ga pump
(Remington 870 clone)

Charleston August: Springfield Hellcat 9mm



Executive Director's Report

Looking ahead

by John Boch
Executive Director

We continue to fight in court, and like a good heavyweight boxing match, we keep hitting the big guy with great punches but he's not going down yet.

In our FOID lawsuit, the judge who heard the case asked zero questions through oral arguments, signaling to me she had zero interest in the case. It had been dumped into her lap with health issues of the original judge.

Putting that into plain English, we won't have yet driven a wooden stake into the heart of the FOID Act until 2024 or maybe even 2025. It's coming though.

In our lawsuit challenging Gov. Pritzker's new gun and magazine ban, all of us remain bullish on the long-term prospects of a victory unless there's a big change in the makeup of the US Supreme Court.

While we wrestle with these bad decisions in our fight to purchase and possess the most effective firearms for personal defense, we aren't the only ones having problems. The US Supreme Court has its own problems with rogue judges inferior court judges ignoring SCOTUS decisions on guns, with

one renegade jurist even writing that the Bruen decision is intellectually flawed. That's a polite way of saying, "It's stupid."

Until and unless SCOTUS calls out judges like that and tells them to self-procreate then follow the rule of law, it will take a little while longer for us to get justice.

In the meantime, we will be playing defense. Yes, the US Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals heard our motion to get a preliminary injunction to block Pritzker's new PICA gun and magazine ban. Given the rabidly anti-gun pedigree of the judges hearing the appeal, we will lose 2-1. Of course we will appeal. But those take time.

ACTION PLAN ON GUNS!

What's that mean in layman's terms to you, my friends? In short, unless we file another lawsuit taking aim at the gun registration component of the new law and get a preliminary injunction to block that aspect, I don't see an outcome on the existing cases before the registration aspect kicks in on October 1st and then closes on December 31st.

You've got almost six months before registration is set to close to sort out your collection and decide which, if any, firearms you want to register. Or you can make plans for burials, boat accidents, re-homing or whatever else you need to do.



I don't see a lot of compliance on the gun registry component, so you might encounter a waiting list to rent that gas post-hole digger.

Do what you need to do.

In the meantime, donate to our legal fight. We wouldn't ask if our legal teams didn't really need it and if we had any doubts as to our ultimate likelihood of success. Don't send the legal defense donations to us. Send them to tax-deductible entities which will forward them to the lawyers. See page seven.

ISRA is the NRA's state-level affiliate for Illinois

Asking questions of the Illinois State Rifle Association about upcoming gun registration

A Guns Save Life member carbon copied us on an email sent to ISRA asking for their guidance on a number of issues. We're sharing it because we have some of the same questions.



Since it appears any court decision or TRO will be too late to stop the registration process, is ISRA polling the membership about what they intend to do about it? It would be important to know what percentage of people intend to comply.

There is also the issue of how people who do not own computers are suppose to comply. Why is ISRA not aggressively addressing this with the ISP?

Once the state has the information even if everything we want happens regarding the law, they will still have the information.

What, if anything, is ISRA going to do about raids and arrests for non-compliance?

Is the ISRA providing information about how to avoid compliance legally by (for example) moving firearms out of state? While I own property in another state, many members do not. Why are there no arrangements being made for across the state line storage facilities for ISRA members?

Has ISRA published a list of weapons the state is requiring registry of and I missed it. If you haven't done so, why not?

Guns Save Life joining two new legal challenges

(GSL) - With the help of the Second Amendment Law Center, GSL has joined in two more court cases that challenge our ability to protect our homes and families.

In the wake of last summer's *NYSRPA v. Bruen* decision, the anger of gun control fanatics has been running hotter than the Devil's armpit from one end of the country to the other. They've thrown up legislative roadblocks left and right. Their efforts to undermine the *Bruen* ruling are a disgrace.



We aim to shove their unconstitutional thuggery back where it belongs (this is a family-friendly publication after all) and fighting them head-on in court is our only really viable option for now.

With that in mind, Guns Save Life is pleased to announce that we have recently joined Gun Owners of America in amicus campaigns coordinated by the Second Amendment Law Center. We've already joined the fight in Delaware battling that state's ban on the most popular

and effective self-defense firearms and have another poised to drop in Oregon fighting the same efforts to ban America's favorite rifle, the AR-15 and millions more like it.

Both of these cases could directly impact Illinois as well as other states battling anti-gun forces.

No matter how many times the media and leftist politicians try to skirt it, the Supreme Court's *Bruen* decision is a clear directive as to how individual states must handle gun laws. Still – states like Illinois persist in pushing legislation that undercuts *Bruen*, which is why GSL has joined with our 2A friends in fighting these schemes.

These "friend of the court" briefs are essential because the attorneys for the parties in a case are not allowed to fund or participate in writing amicus briefs and therefore need a group such as the Second Amendment Law Center to step in and offer assistance.

To help us in these fights, please join Guns Save Life or upgrade your membership. Donations are always welcome as well. See page 7 for where to send support for the Second Amendment Law Center or to help our Illinois legal team in our federal court fight. Your support would be a big help. We guarantee it.

LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO SHOOT?

DeWitt County Sportsmans Club

Clinton, IL



FREE ACTION SHOOT: AUG 16th

Action shoot Wed., Aug. 16th 6p - no charge!

Breakfasts return October 1.

>>>> Memberships Available. <<<<

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



Coming Sept. 18th to **your** county:

JAIL BREAK

Illinois Supreme Court upholds 'No Cash Bail'

(The Center Square) – In 60 days, cash bail in Illinois will be no more after the Illinois Supreme Court upheld the Pretrial Fairness Act portion of the Safety, Accountability, Equity, Transparency-Today Act.

The sweeping criminal justice measure narrowly passed in early 2020 and had been amended multiple times, including in December 2022 with a law Gov. J.B. Pritzker signed to clarify that criminal defendants charged with violent crimes can be

held pretrial while those charged with nonviolent crimes can be let go without bail.

The no-cash bail provision was supposed to go into effect statewide Jan. 1, 2023, but was put on hold by the Illinois Supreme Court after a Kankakee County judge declared the law unconstitutional.

The challenge from state's attorneys across Illinois claim the measure violated the constitution's separation

of powers. They argued if the legislature wanted to change the surety portion of the pretrial process, they should have posed the question to voters...

"[W]e reverse the circuit court's decision to grant summary judgment in favor of plaintiffs. Sixty days after the filing of this opinion, on September 18, 2023, this court's stay of pretrial release provisions in Public Acts 101-652 and 102-1104 shall be vacated."

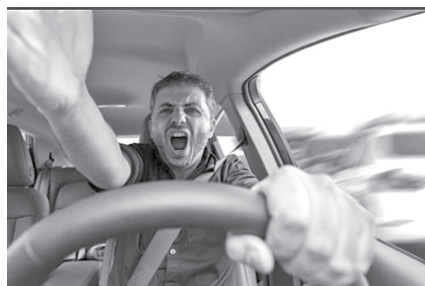
Because the PICA Gun Ban has been so successful at reducing violent crime!

GASBAG: Pritzker calls for nationwide gun ban

(The Center Square) – With Illinois' gun and magazine ban being challenged in a case expected to go to the U.S. Supreme Court, Gov. J.B. Pritzker says there needs to be a federal ban.

On the one-year anniversary of the Independence Day parade shooting in Highland Park Tuesday, Pritzker said there needs to be more gun control.

"We've banned assault weapons. We've banned high capacity magazines. We've banned switches that turn regular guns into automatic weapons and here in Illinois those are things that will keep people safe and alive, but we need a national ban," Pritzker said...

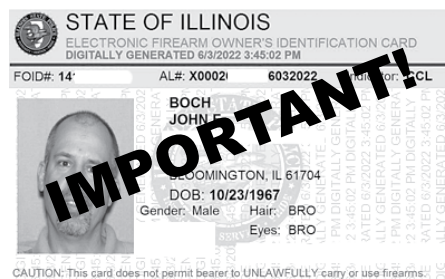


Road rage preceded 40% of highway shootings...

ISP warn of 'alarming' rise in road rage

Springfield, IL (The Center Square) - The Illinois State Police are warning the public about an increasing trend in road rage incidents on Illinois highways.

In 2022, road rage was reported in about 40% of Chicago area highway shootings handled by state police, a 12% increase from 2021.



Download your e-FOID

At the ISPFSB.com website, the Illinois State Police have a link to access a valid electronic copy of your FOID/CCW license. Go there and download the image of yours today into your phone, so if you forget your wallet, you will be able to produce the image on your phone to remain legal to carry a firearm (either unloaded and encased with a FOID or a loaded handgun for CCW holders...) or to purchase firearms or ammunition at retailers.

FOID & CCW APPLICATIONS: Help is available

(GSL) - Having problems or struggling with an online application for a FOID card or a carry license? Trust us, you're not alone. For now at least, the FOID Act remains in force and as such we have to navigate obstacles to exercise our firearm rights.



Yes, the Illinois State Police have a call-in number (217-782-7980), but you'll be calling in with thousands of others each day trying to reach two or three dozen "customer service" agents working at their call center. Hold times can become fearsome pretty quickly. Even worse, in the past if too many are in the "on hold" queue, the computer tells you to call back before hanging up. Clearly helping gun owners get the best Illinois can offer is the first thing Gov. Pritzker thinks about when he rolls out of bed every morning.

On the Illinois State Police Firearms Services Bureau website (ISPFSB.com), there's a tab "Need Application Help?" Click on that and you can search their database of businesses and individuals who can help. Sometimes it can cost a few bucks but their time is money just like yours. Why reach out? They have permissions the average user does not and can sometimes overcome some obstacles to logging into your account.

Other options include visiting one of the in-person offices in the state. These are located at:

ISP District 5, 16648 Broadway St., Lockport, IL 60441
ISP District 11, 1100 Eastport Plaza, Collinsville, IL 62234
ISP Central Headquarters, 801 S 7th St, Springfield, IL 62703
ISP District 13, 1391 S Washington St, Du Quoin, IL 62832

Still having problems? Contact your state representative or state senator. They typically field a lot of constituent service requests from people having problems with their gun licensing applications, but in submitting them and with processing times. In fact, downstate at least, firearm licensing scheme problems are THE most common constituent call for help.

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Country Character

FOID Act converted a right into a privilege

by Justin Thyme
a GSL member

The Illinois FOID card came into being in 1968. After that date, to buy or possess firearms or ammunition became a privilege rather than a right for the Illinois citizen. Since that time government determined IF an Illinois resident could own a firearm... a fundamental Constitutional right protected by our Constitution. To add insult to injury, this FOID card requirement also came with a fee! In other words, the FOID Act converted a fundamental right into a privilege that you had to pay to apply for a license to exercise it!

After the Civil War, poll taxes were introduced to keep poor people, mainly black people, from voting. To permanently put an end to this practice, the 24th Amendment was added to the Constitution. It declared the poll tax was unconstitutional in federal elections and was ratified in 1964. In 1966 the Supreme Court of the United States further ruled states could not levy a poll tax as a prerequisite for voting in state and local elections.

Its time this criteria is applied to the 2nd amendment as well.

I'll admit I didn't even consider the unconstitutional

aspects of the FOID card back in 1968 at its inception. Now that I'm (much) older and wiser, I am now much more adept at recognizing constitutional issues thanks to Guns Save



Life and other like-minded organizations. For fifty-five years the Illinois citizen has been stripped of a fundamental constitutional right because of a government that wishes to control rather than protect its citizens.

One of the provisions of the FOID card, recently struck down in court, is that if one was arrested for a crime their FOID card would be quickly suspended, even though they had not had their day in court or been convicted of a crime.

One of the mainstays, if not *the* mainstay, of our legal system is innocent until proven guilty. Surely, this practice constitutes a lack of due process. Why did it take years if not decades to end this practice?

Private information in the

hands of the government can be misused. In September of 2010, the Associated Press submitted a Freedom of Information Act request for the names and expiration dates of Illinois FOID card holders. While then Attorney General Lisa Madigan (D-Corruptocrat's Daughter) was okay with that, Illinois firearm owners were much concerned. Gun owners understand correctly they could be targets for thieves.

Republican sponsored legislation passed both the House and Senate and was signed into law by Governor Quinn (D) in 2011, thereby stopping this list from being published. The constitutional way to prevent this list from being published, leaked or stolen would be that it did not exist in the first place!

As the battle to eliminate the FOID card continues in our courts, we may also wish to consider how many other issues should be under challenge as well. Poor legislation leads to poor outcomes. In the case of the FOID card, millions of residents have been deprived of their constitutional rights without first paying for a permission slip from government, subject to police powers and immediate revocation on the whim of a bureaucrat.

Our lawsuits fighting to defend your right to defend yourself, and those of others

Guns Save Life Illinois Litigation Update

GSL's FOID Challenge.

Our *Guns Save Life v. Kelly* case in state court challenging the constitutionality of the FOID Act saw oral arguments on June 20th. We were placed in front of a new judge who didn't ask a single question of either side during the 90+ minute hearing. Not a single question.

While I don't have a crystal ball, my Magic 8-ball suggests the judge has more interest in playing golf than spending time weighing the merits of our case. She asked for proposed orders from each side.



Trust me, if you read the state's proposed order and took it personally, you might want to sell your house and move out of Illinois pronto.

They hate us as gun owners. They don't care about the rule of law. Instead, they are more than ready to ignore the law to make up their own. But what do you expect from a power-hungry state government that puts the rights of illegal aliens ahead of Americans?

GSL's PICA Gun & Mag Challenge.

After getting off to a very rough start defending Gov. Pritzker's Firearms Ban Act (deceptively named the "Protect Illinois Communities Act"), Attorney General Kwame Raoul is now firmly in the driver's seat thanks to insurrectionist inferior court judges who won't enforce the rule of law. We had oral arguments in our suit challenging the gun ban on front of a three-judge panel at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals on June 29th. Two of the three panelists are rabidly anti-gun zealots bitter about being passed over for US Supreme Court nominations.

My Magic 8-ball, dusted off for the FOID hearing, wasted no time telling me they Seventh Circuit judges aren't going to give us (as plaintiffs or as gun owners) a win striking down gun and magazine bans. Those judges - Wood and Easterbrook - are committed to gun control with every fiber of their miserable beings.

What else is certain? Whoever loses this round will appeal. The problem for us is that if we lose (as expected), we'll have to play defense as the law will remain in place during our appeal process.

How does that impact you? I don't see a scenario where we get an appeal heard and decision issued prior to the implementation of the PICA law's gun registration scheme starting October 1st (and ending December 31st). In other words, you will have to register your freshly-prohibited guns if you want to remain "legal" under this bad law.

We're contemplating another suit to block the registration scheme in federal court. However, what happens if we get a similar panel at the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals? Spending \$100,000 or more just to face the same outcome doesn't seem wise.

Dan Caulkins' PICA challenge.

Dan Caulkins won a Macon County ruling striking down the PICA gun ban back in March. This is why you don't see enforcement of the law by the State and its agents at this time. However, Kwame appealed. Oral arguments were heard in May and the case remains under consideration by the Illinois Supreme Court.

The Illinois Supremes did announce a decision would be released on Tuesday, July 18th in the SAFE-T Act/No Cash Bail Act law challenge. That means we're likely one step closer to the PICA decision.

If Caulkins loses and the lower court ruling is vacated (as expected), don't be surprised to see Rep. Caulkins file an appeal to the US Supreme Court. It's a long-shot as the SCOTUS turns away 99% of petitions received, but it's certainly a hot-button topic nationwide.

Thomas Maag's ISP FOID Revocation ruling appealed.

With just days before the deadline to file an appeal passed, the Illinois Attorney General filed a motion to the Illinois Supreme Court appealing a Madison County Judge's ruling on March 10th striking down the section of Illinois law allowing the Illinois State Police to suspend Firearm Owner ID Cards over mere arrests.

The Illinois Supreme Court has not yet scheduled the case for briefs and arguments.



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

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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.



In regione caecorum rex est luscus

In the land of the blind, the one-eyed man is King

by Desiderius Erasmus, a GSL member



In the land of unarmed sheep,
the knife-armed man is King...

Your faithful EDC blade

Back when my ancestors lived in caves and were scared of saber-tooth cats, I'm pretty sure that old gramps never left home without his trusty knife. And while Mr. Saber-tooth is long gone, never leave your own "cave" without your own "every day carry" (commonly known today as an EDC) knife.

Choices are many and depend on your normal uses for it. If you're in an office and 90% of its use will be to slice open letters or delivery boxes, the knife you choose may be far different than if you work on a farm. I know of a couple of people who carry one blade for flesh (defensive use) and another for utility purposes.

Pick one you want to carry every day. Choose a knife you don't mind getting messy or dirty, and at the same time pick one easy to carry. Nobody wants a brick in their pocket, so the lighter and easier to carry the knife is, the more likely you are to carry it. Bonus points for picking one that is fun and practical.

Don't think knife combat. While almost any knife provides a degree of defense, an EDC isn't primarily that, except for, perhaps, if you are in our military and have "a very particular set of skills." Blade training is available and affordable. Just like learning defensive firearm skills, it takes time, practice and a little dedication. It's worth noting that in many parts of the world, there is a rich and vibrant "knife culture" much like America has a "gun culture."

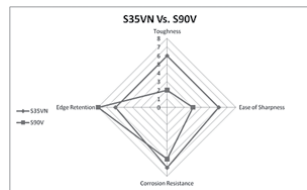
Second, I personally buy American, because domestic makers usually divulge key parameters like type of steel used for the blade. But if you have something from a maker such as Boker (Böker), made in Solingen, Germany, you have a great knife so don't worry. In any case, you'll need to start looking at knife qualities including:

edge retention (ability to hold its sharpness during use); toughness (ability to resist chipping or complete failure during really hard use and abuse); hardness (ability to resist deforming); corrosion resistance as well as ease of sharpening. Read multiple sources, as its interesting.

The rub is that some of these characteristics work against each other!

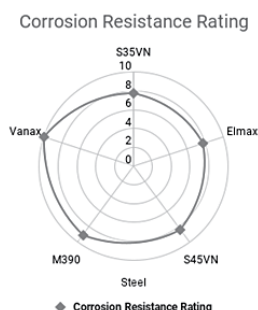
Now to the blade's steel. You'll start reading names such as D2, M390, S30V, S35VN, S90V, Elmax, and so many more it will make your head swim. But never fear, most discussions on the Internet also use diagrams that compare two sample steels. Because it is the type of steel in your knife blade that will determine its cost and character. So if you are looking at a knife and cannot find the type of steel used, you may want to move on, because without knowing the steel, you could be guessing how it will turn out.

Would you buy a firearm, without knowing its caliber? Here is a diagram comparing S35VN steel to S90V with respect to toughness, edge retention, ease of sharpness, and corrosion resistance. The further away from the center of the diamond, the higher that steel is rated in that particular category. In this case, S35VN has higher ratings than S90V in everything but edge retention, but if edge retention is really important for you, you might end up wanting that.



[Editor's note: these don't reproduce well in grayscale. The S90V is the leftmost on the scale... great at edge retention but very difficult to sharpen. I can attest from personal experience.]

Sometimes a diagram looks like this next one, which in this case presents just one category, corrosion resistance, and then shows five types of steel and how well they do in this. Again, the further away from the center the rating is, the stronger the rating. Vanax is the best of these five steels shown, but all five score high in this category.



Let's get to five makers. **Benchmade** (Oregon): A premium company, all kinds of steel and products, known for their AXIS lock where the blade remains more secure. Free LifeSharp maintenance (they'll re-sharpen it!) Downside? The get expensive in a hurry. But at least visit their website because it doesn't cost to look.

Buck (Idaho). Been around a long time. [Editor: Their founder Chuck Buck once spoke at a Guns Save Life meeting!] BUCK Forever Warranty. Extremely reasonable prices. Downside? Some can be a little heavy.

Case (Pennsylvania). Also known for making small folding multi-blade knives, and if that fits your EDC needs, get one. Lots of S35VN. Kinzua line looks fascinating. Mid-range prices. Downside? One variation is all camouflage, including blade. If you drop it, will you be able to find it?

Emerson (California). Lots of 154CM. Known for fighting knives, but several models are EDC. Downside? Can be pricey.

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

Legal Defense Fund Donations...

Folks, it looks like we're going to the US Supreme Court to fight for our right to purchase, possess and transport the most effective firearms for personal defense.

What's more, we may be filing another lawsuit to challenge the registration component in Gov. Pritzker's PICA Gun & Magazine ban that he signed into law on January 10th. If funds allow it, we will seek injunctive relief to block the state from demanding a list of your guns under penalty of a felony for failing to register. After all, we all know what follows gun registration.

We're urging people to donate directly to our legal teams to help make all of this possible.

To pay our Illinois litigation team:

SADEC.org
2nd Amendment Defense and Education Coalition (SADEC)
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(this one is tax deductible)

To help the national firm backstopping our IL team:

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We still absolutely endorse and support FFL-IL and their fund for our Illinois attorneys, however donations to them are not tax deductible. Aurora Sportsmen's Club's SADEC gets 100% of donations to the same place only in a tax deductible fashion.

We would prefer folks send donations directly to the above funds. The easiest way for everyone involved is to make the donations online, but we've included mail addresses here for the non-computer savvy.

as manual or automatic (following legal requirements where you live). Hold it, and try opening and closing it, BEFORE you buy it.

Finally, don't do what I did. No matter what you think you know, if you have ANY knife on you, or in a carry-on bag going through TSA at an airport, they will almost certainly confiscate it! And if you bitch, they might go badass and not let you board the plane. Plan ahead or lose your EDC. Because there's

nothing sadder than losing a faithful friend.

Instead, put it on an accessible spot in your checked luggage, especially if you're flying with a checked firearm. Some airlines will use giant zip ties to keep you from opening luggage containing a firearm in the airport. That big blade will make short work of that zip tie and then ride comfortably in your pocket as you exit the airport.

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GunNews Magazine - 8 - August 2023

Needy, anti-gun 'man' beats his birdgun to death for 8 million views on Twitter

A star is born!

by John Boch
Supposedly in Texas (GSL)
- A star is born thanks to American social media. Our newest "star" Jason Rogers claims he's a man from Texas. He posted on Twitter: "I'm sick of all the guns here in Texas, so I'm starting with mine."



Jason Rogers wears his safety glasses to beat his bird gun to death.

"Mine" he writes, suggesting that the shotgun is his only gun. Anyway, ol' Jason tried to claim his 15 minutes of fame in life by beating his Mossberg 500 bird gun to death.



Our aspiring brain surgeon put his poor, defenseless shotgun on a stack of three boards and proceeds to assault it with a sledge hammer.

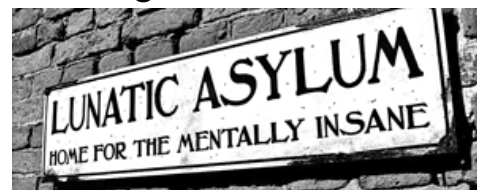
It's akin to beating your red-headed step child. And about as productive.

Not satisfied with beating it just once or twice, he goes at it a third time. Kudos to Mossberg for making such sturdy shotguns.

Rogers' wife must surely be so proud of him. Or maybe she's happy he's beating that poor shotgun instead of her. Who knows.

California assembly passes 'affirmative action in sentencing' law

(Washington Examiner) - A little-known bill that passed the California State Assembly in May would make liberal victimhood ideology the law of the land in the state.



The state Senate is now considering Assembly Bill 852, which would require judges to "consider the disparate impact on historically disenfranchised and system-impacted populations" when deciding prison sentences. Consistent with the view that statistical disparities are automatic evidence of a racist system, judges would be giving black convicts lighter punishments than white convicts for the same crimes.

'Freedom' Exposes Groomers, Inc. and Hollywood & the mainstream media hate it

Sound of Freedom continues to shock Hollywood

(Washington Examiner) - Sound of Freedom is once again shocking the box office with expectations of reaching nearly \$23 [Editor: \$27.3 per BoxOfficeMojo] million in its second weekend in theaters.



The film grossed more than \$7 million on Friday, putting it on pace to finish the weekend with \$81 million and to break \$100 million in gross receipts, according to box office reports.

Sound of Freedom continues to beat Sony Pictures Insidious: The Red Door overall, in addition to besting Disney's latest Indiana Jones film on a daily basis for nearly a week.

The movie, which is distributed by Angel Studios, details the true story of how former Homeland Security agent Tim Ballard quit his DHS job and risked his life to journey into the jungles of Colombia in an effort to save children from sex slavery.



editorial entitled, "QAnon and 'Sound of Freedom' Both Rely on Tired Hollywood Tropes" by Noah Berlatsky.

Andy Ngo, an editor with Post Millennial shared this about Berlatsky:

The person who wrote this Bloomberg opinion piece is leftist activist Noah Berlatsky. He was the spokesperson for M.A.P. (minor-attracted person) advocacy group, Prostaia. In 2017, he tweeted that pedophiles are a stigmatized group who get designated as deviants for hateful purposes.



(GSL) - The mainstream media hates Sound of Freedom. Does it hit too close to home for some of them? Perhaps.

Bloomberg published an

Use the correct ammo...

Using the wrong ammo can be hazardous to your health and wealth

by Nick Klementzos

Believe it or not, mishaps in ammo selection occur more often than most of us want to admit. Using the correct ammunition is important. In fact, it's one of the rules of safe firearm usage.

If you're like most gun owners you're probably thinking, "Well, duh!"

Again, it happens more often than most of us want to admit, even with experienced shooters with lots of guns.

Always stay vigilant when loading your firearm to ensure you're using the correct ammunition. Not only check the box it came in but also examine the cartridges themselves. You don't have to break out your magnifying glass to inspect each round, but give them a cursory examination for obvious problems and then pay attention as you load each round your magazines or cylinders.

If you've read any of my articles in the past you know that Uncle Nick rolls his own. No! Not the botanical variety.

I tell people I started reloading in order to save money. In reality, it allows me to shoot more.

Now for the most part, Uncle Nick is no tree-hugging environmentalist, except when it comes to brass. When it comes to brass, I single-handedly save our planet by recycling spent cartridge cases into freedom pills. I'm not sure Greta Thunberg would approve though.



When at the range, I merrily pick up the cases left behind by others. Just glancing at the spent cases tells me a lot.

Some examples? Glock pistols leave a unique striker indentation upon the primers of the spent cases. They also leave distinctive soot marks on the side of the case. Sig P365s leave a unique "tail" on the primer as the striker hasn't retracted before the gun starts extraction when fired. 1911s ding up .45 ACP brass differently depending on the model. Older HK long guns leave unique soot

stripes on the shell casings.

Other cartridge cases share more ominous stories.

Unknowingly putting the wrong ammunition in your firearms can lead to disastrous results. These problems stem from cartridges that will fit in chambers other than those for which they were intended.

Recently a friend named Jane came to me and handed me some fired cases. She asked if I knew why they looked very strange.



.32 ACP cartridges fired from a .380 ACP chamber.

Her friend shot the .32 ACP rounds out of a Walther PPK/s, a .380 ACP caliber gun. The odd bulge is where the case mouth expanded to seal the chamber.

Now, the .32 ACP and .380 ACP cartridges are similar in size, shape and length to the untrained eye or to anyone in less than ideal conditions. Obviously the .32 ACP cartridges fit into the PPK/s' magazine, and they chambered in the gun. However they caused the gun to malfunction with each shot.

Fortunately the unsupported case wall did not rupture and as such there was no damage to the handgun or the shooter.

New shooters will sometimes make these mistakes, but how do these mistakes happen with experienced shooters? They happen when people handle a lot of different calibers of ammunition and they are not paying attention.

For instance, 9mm rounds can easily find their way into .40 magazines and pistols. I've seen at least one of my fellow instructors inad-

vertently load 9mm rounds into a .40 Glock magazine and shoot them during a class. Thankfully the cases didn't rupture. I try not to judge Mr. Boch for doing this because I don't walk on water either. To his credit John picked up on the odd sound made by the spent shell cases as they hit the floor to realize something was amiss.

Another common ammunition problem? More than once people have come to me asking why their rounds aren't chambering in their gun. They say "it worked last time." Asking when "last time" was, they sheepishly answer two, maybe three years ago.

Without even a hint of judgement, I coach them on the proper orientation of cartridges when loading the magazine. It can happen to all of us, including HK who famously ran an ad years ago for one of their pistols with cartridges loaded backwards in the magazine.

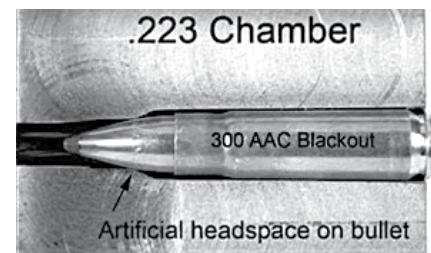


Things get more exciting when people make mistakes with bigger, more powerful cartridges. Glock 20s (10mm) and 21s (.45 ACP) are very similar and will accept magazines from either gun. While the 10mm will load and fire in a .45 ACP chamber, the case will fail dramatically and release a lot of high-pressure gasses, venting those hot gases from places they're not supposed. This is why we wear safety glasses while shooting and have first aid kits nearby.



A 10mm fired in a .45 ACP chamber.

This last case involves a .300 Blackout rifle cartridge. The Blackout is a .223/5.56 case that is shortened by about a half inch and then the neck and shoulder reformed to hold a .30 caliber bullet.



The fly in the ointment with this hybrid? The .300 Blackout will chamber into a .223/5.56 chamber. When fired, the .308 diameter bullet tries to squeeze into a .224 diameter hole. Much to the chagrin of the shooter, this isn't going to happen in our present reality.



One instance I saw first-hand resulted from a single .300 Blackout cartridge ending up in a can of loose, "bulk pack" 5.56 NATO rounds.

In short, the round catastrophically failed, wrecking the receiver as well as the upper. The good news is that the shooter suffered minimal injuries. The bad news is that his gun was toast.

The bottom line: for your own safety, it is imperative that you use the proper ammunition for your firearm. Firing other calibers puts both the shooter and people nearby at risk of serious injury, as well as potentially damaging or destroying your firearm.

Stay aware, stay vigilant, keep practicing safely.

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Remember the one arrested over Memorial Day weekend for beating a robbing motorist?

Illinois to spend \$30 million(!) for so-called ‘peacekeepers’ this year

(The Center Square) – Community members from Chicago are seeking to address crime throughout the state with violence intervention methods as group officials suggest more funding is needed. Others say money is not the issue.

The Illinois Department of Human Services is looking to spend \$30 million in fiscal year 2024 that started July 1 on the Peacekeepers Program. The money comes from COVID-19 relief federal tax funds. The program summary is looking for community groups with a “comprehensive approach to reducing firearm violence through targeted, integrated

behavioral health services and economic opportunities.”

The community group Violence Interrupters focuses on interrupting violence in select cities...

The group’s founder, Tio Hardiman, told *The Center Square* that his group in Chicago had made strides in addressing some of the root causes of crime but did suggest increased funding to expand their operation.

[Editor: No doubt why he would suggest more funding...]

May 28th: No bail for Chicago ‘peacekeeper’ charged with beating, robbing man in Little Village

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A Chicago man wearing a neon yellow “peacekeepers” vest helped a group of people beat and rob a motorist in Little Village on Friday night, according to a Chicago Police Department report. The allegations come after city and state officials lauded the use of “peacekeepers” as a tool they would deploy over the Memorial Day weekend to tamp down violence across the city.



Oscar Montes.

Oscar Montes, 31, was held without bail by Judge Maryam Ahmad on charges of robbery, aggravated battery, and unlawful vehicular

invasion Sunday afternoon...

Montes is on parole for a 2012 case in which he pleaded guilty to aggravated discharge of a firearm into an occupied vehicle. Golaszewski said those allegations stemmed from an incident involving a rival gang member of Montes in Little Village. Court records show Montes was originally charged with attempted murder but pleaded guilty to the lesser charge.

July 16th: Two ‘peacekeepers’ shot this weekend, including one on electronic monitoring: source

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Two Chicago men were shot while working as “peacekeepers” in Little Village over the weekend, including one who was shot in the leg, right next to the electronic monitoring bracelet he was wearing for a pending felony gun case. The men were shot about a block from where another peacekeeper allegedly helped beat and rob a motorist in May.

THE SHIELD IN REAL LIFE?

Rogue cops keep ‘recovered’ guns, money, drugs?

Chicago (GSL) - Decades ago, it was not unusual for cops to sometimes keep desirable firearms they confiscated from bad guys. Sometimes they kept clunkers for throw-down pieces too. Those days have ended, by and large.

However, according to the Civilian Office of Police Accountability, a number of Calumet District cops with Chicago Police Department have “recovered” guns without arrests or proper paperwork. Not only that, but COPA alleges the officers they falsified records to cover up the recoveries.

The *Chicago Sun-Times* published story and it involves five guns, none of which they mentioned were high-end guns. The *Sun-Times* also reported that bodycam video, in one case, shows a backpack with a stack of cash and a bunch of weed that somehow didn’t make it onto an inventory list. The same officer also reportedly snagged a Glock .40 later in the day.

The department has stripped four Calumet District cops of their police powers while the investigation continues.

Makes you want to bring your teen daughter to Chicago, right?

Man abducted 14-year-old girl outside Chicago Public Library in Loop, raped her in portable toilet: prosecutors

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Prosecutors yesterday accused a Chicago man of abducting a 14-year-old girl outside the Harold Washington Library and sexually assaulting her in a nearby portable toilet.

Judge David Kelly refused to hold Julian Murray without bail, saying he found the state’s DNA evidence “quite compelling” but short of the legal threshold needed to deny bond.

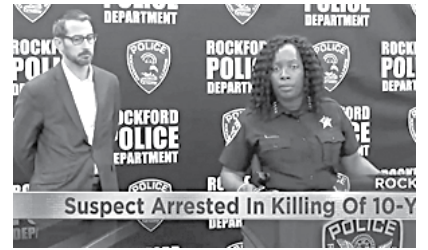
The 14-year-old girl, who has a diagnosed intellectual disability and an estimated IQ of 62...

Perp on bail in machinegun case fires up on group, nearly hitting a Cook County prosecutor driving home

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A Cook County prosecutor found herself on the wrong side of Chicago street violence last week as she drove home from the Leighton Criminal Courthouse at 26th and California. The driver in front of her shooting in her direction, apparently intending to hit a group of people passing by.

The assistant state’s attorney was not injured. A 16-year-old boy in the group was not so lucky.

Those details were revealed during a bail hearing for Omar Funches, the 25-year-old man who stands accused of being the gunman. Funches, who was on bail for a pending charge of unlawful possession of a machine gun, is the 14th person accused of shooting, killing, or trying to shoot or kill someone in Chicago this year while awaiting trial for a felony. The cases involve at least 20 victims, seven of whom died.



‘Monster’ sex offender abducts two girls in Rockford, killing one

Rockford, IL (GSL) - “A real life monster.” That’s how Rockford, IL’s mayor described the incident where a sex offender from Blue Island, IL abducted two girls, ages 10 and 6, in Rockford. He tried to strangle them both but the 6-year-old got away then ran home and told her mother.

Police arrested Antonio Monroe, 44, a registered sexual predator on a slew of charges.



Thanks, judge!

Cops: Chicago man carjacked woman while bail for carjacking and probation on a gun case

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — Prosecutors yesterday charged Nicolas Ramirez, 20, with carjacking a woman at gunpoint in Little Village on Tuesday. Ramirez was on bail for another armed carjacking case and on probation for a felony gun case at the time. And, for good measure, he had warrants out on both cases because he stopped showing up for his court dates.



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Meeting program at 5:30.

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Chicago Heights, IL

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Sun., July 30th



Wednesday, Aug 9th

>> Meeting program at 6pm <<

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First rule of Chicago: Leave.
Second rule: Bring a second gun.
Third rule: Bring friends with long guns.

Dozens of victims robbed overnight as armed crews run rampant

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — For the past few weeks, we have reported almost daily about yet another robbery spree on the North or Near West sides of Chicago in which four, six, or eight victims were robbed in a short time.

We have more to tell you about today. Candidly, there were so many armed robberies in our primary coverage area overnight, we simply cannot reliably tell you how many occurred. Conservatively, we can say 20 armed robberies occurred. We believe the number may ultimately be more than 25.



Kim Foxx must have been out of town...

Prosecutors drop murder charges in self-defense case

Chicago (CWB Chicago) - Cook County prosecutors have dropped all charges against a Chicago woman and her 14-year-old son, who were accused of first-degree murder last week following an altercation inside a fast-food restaurant.



Chicago voters about to get what they voted for

Mayor Big Brain pledges to doom Chicago by 're-envisioning' police

Chicago (Breitbart) - Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson has pledged to doom his city with reforms that will "re-envision the role of a police officer."

Oh, boy, are the voters of this once great city about to get what they voted for.

It's now obvious that the people of Chicago believed former Mayor Lori Lightfoot was too heavy on criminals, even as violent crime exploded over the last few years. Murder is up 19 percent, robbery is up 23 percent, theft is up 45 percent, and car theft is up 235 percent (not a typo).

Overall, serious crime in Chicago is up a



Former CPD Chief Garry McCarthy loses daughter to Chinese fentanyl

(GSL) - Former Chicago Police Supt. Garry McCarthy lost his daughter last spring to an overdose of Chinese-made fentanyl. McCarthy, now the police chief of suburban Willow Springs, not only grieves over the loss of his daughter but also for 110,000 other Americans killed by illegally imported fentanyl last year.

John Kass wrote about McCarthy's loss in a recent column at JohnKassNews.com. McCarthy recalled how his daughter was great athlete in school, but after a car crash broke her ankle, she was put on an opioid pain killer and became addicted over time. She struggled with pain and addiction for many years.

"They're killing our children," McCarthy told Kass. But our mainstream media doesn't want to report on a story that makes the Biden administration look feckless.



While we didn't have much love for Garry McCarthy during his tenure as CPD chief, we were stunned to hear of the loss of his daughter. Our condolences go out to Chief McCarthy on the loss of his beloved daughter.



Red states, blue cities: Who's to blame for America's homicide crisis

(Wirepoints) - There's a debate raging over who's responsible for the surge in homicides and violent crime across the country. California Gov. Gavin Newsom blames Republicans, saying that "8 of the top murder states are red." Left-leaning think tank Third Way claims it's "red" state-level leadership and policies that are responsible for the nation's homicide problem. And Politico's recent analysis on gun violence claims the problem is most acute in places "where Republicans have dominated state governments for decades."

The problem with those arguments is that local governments, and not states, are overwhelmingly responsible for managing crime. Yes,

state officials set criminal penalties and some broader parameters, but it's mayors who control police and policing, local prosecutors who decide what to prosecute, and district/county judges who determine who to sentence.

State-level gun laws are often cited as the key factor explaining murder rates, but gun-friendly Maine, Idaho, Utah, Iowa have some of the nation's lowest homicide rates, according to most-recent CDC data. Then there are states like Illinois, Maryland and Delaware that have strict gun laws and yet have relatively high homicide rates. Illinois often complains that the permissive gun laws of its neighboring states are to blame, but that doesn't explain why its neighbors have

much lower homicide rates.

The answer is that it's not a red vs. blue state debate, but rather a red vs. blue city one. And when you look at America's homicide hotspots, the vast majority are run by blue leadership and they have been for decades. The evidence is overwhelming.

Wirepoints went back to its 2022 homicide survey of the nation's 75 biggest cities and used the political affiliation of each mayor as a proxy for a city's overall blue or red leadership. We found that 26 of the 30 cities with the highest murder rates were run by Democratic mayors last year. Just two were run by Republicans and two others were led by either an independent or a progressive mayor.

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ABOVE BIOMETRICS

Beware your 'smart home' might become your worst enemy

Smart Home devices carry risks

Convenience. Americans pay for convenience and today's "smart" devices, wired to the Internet, provide convenience in spades.

While Internet service is pretty good, there's always a chance it could fail, crippling "smart" devices. They also come with a darker side that most people don't contemplate, in that companies or unauthorized users may take control of these "smart" devices, locking out end users.

Certainly most folks will dismiss that scenario. "Those things won't happen to me."

Does that sound familiar? Some folks think the same about crime too. "It won't happen to me."



Brandon Jackson used to love his smart house in Baltimore. That is until an Amazon delivery driver reported to his bosses that someone at Jackson's residence hurled a racial slur at him.

How did Amazon respond? They locked Jackson out of his Amazon account - and more importantly, his control to all "smart devices" installed throughout the house.

While an inability to remotely control kitchen appliances, thermostats or lights is annoying, locking a homeowner out of his house by disabling the garage door opener and the smart locks securing the home is quite another.

Amazon determined the allegation against Jackson to be unfounded, but that didn't help Jackson during the week-long lock-out.

Amazon restored Jackson's service on May 31st. It left him re-evaluating his "relationship" with Amazon. The fact that he didn't completely divorce himself from all things Amazon during the dispute speaks volumes for Jackson's tolerance for abuse from Big Tech.

Consider for a moment that his alleged transgression involved hurling a racial epithet. But what happens if something else became tomorrow's wrongthink? Perhaps supporting the wrong political candidate or cause? Maybe you publicly oppose transgenderism, vaccine mandates or DEI. Or maybe you're the next Kyle Rittenhouse and you perforate several criminals, angering the Left's woke mob in America. What happens then?

There's already precedent for "deplatforming" services for wrongthink far beyond Facebook time-outs. Remember the truck-

er's protest in Canada in 2022? Canada's government froze the bank accounts of participants as well as those who donated to the truckers' charity.



It's not just in Canada. We've seen big banks abruptly cancel gun store and gun manufacturer bank accounts and reduce or eliminate their lines of credit arbitrarily and without recourse. That's happened right here in Illinois countless times. Doubt it? Ask Robert Bevis from Law Weapons in Naperville.

We've also watched as donor info from divisive online fundraisers get used to wreck peoples' lives. Remember the Norfolk, VA police lieutenant fired over a \$25 donation to the Kyle Rittenhouse legal defense online fundraiser?



What happens if supporting gun rights becomes tomorrow's wrongthink? Or the recreational use of firearms or maybe gun purchases? Or worse yet, using a gun in self-defense!

Corporations have a lot fewer guardrails on what they can and can't do to individual Americans than does government.

While smart devices offer lots of conveniences, they also tether their owners to Big Tech even more than before. Most folks don't think about this potential downside to so-called "smart" stuff. Until something happens to them.

Independent living

Many homeowners don't want an Alexa listening to their private conversations inside the home. They don't want Amazon or any other unauthorized users blocking them from using their garage door opener or front door lock for any reason, real or imagined.

Take a moment to think about the potential downside before pulling the trigger on a "smart device" over a traditional device the next time you're out shopping. Sometimes a "dumb" device is a smart choice.

By the way, Amazon's looking to offer free or low cost cell phone service soon. Does this make you eager to sign up for their "free" phone when it becomes available?



Support your local ranges

American Heritage Range in Waynesville OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, August 19th

by Rich McClure

The LeRoy Rifle and Pistol Club will hold an Open House of our new range location on Saturday, August 19th from 11am-3pm. We started in 1974 and moved to our new location at 3991 Gabby Road in Waynesville in 2018. Since then we've made improvements we would like to show off at our Open House along with plans for more.

Members (and guests) may shoot any firearm anytime from 7a.m. until dusk daily. We currently have shooting up to 25 yards and by next summer we anticipate completion of our 100 yard range. Plans include archery and firearm ranges out to 500 yards as interest and funding allows. Oh yes, there's already a dedicated location for knife and ax throwing.

We have monthly black powder shoots during the summer months. The date of the shoots can be found on our AmericanHeritageRange.org website.

Our club takes great pride in our family-friendly space, so bring your kids and grandkids out - and bring their friends as well. We will have hot dogs and chips to eat and opportunities to shoot. Also, come see us at our booth at the Bloomington Gun Show on August 12th and 13th. We look forward to seeing you there!



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DERECHO!

by John Boch

(GSL) - The pre-Independence Day Derecho on June 29th proved one of the largest, most destructive storms to hit Illinois in recent memory. The fast-moving storm with straight-line winds in excess of 110mph in places caused massive power outages and extensive property damage.



It also gave many of us a real-world opportunity to test our emergency skills and preparations. For those who lacked skills and preps, it offered a wake-up call for them to better prepare for unexpected emergencies. Now, whether or not they hit the snooze button is another matter.



Unlike nearly 200,000 of the 1.2M Illinois residences Ameren serves, we didn't lose power at my place in the immediate aftermath of the storm. However I did lose the upper half of our biggest backyard tree.

I waited for the torrential rains and winds to die down before going out to assess the damage. Then, back inside, I texted some friends asking for help.

Several were already out helping neighbors or immediate family. I shouldn't have been surprised as that's just the nature of people that GSL attracts into its orbit. A couple of others were out of town, including one at a conference in Indianapolis camped out in a (hot) hotel room without electricity. I bet that was sweet. Hope he brought his swim trunks.

Later, with the help of friend Chad from the Bloomington-Normal area, we made most of the fallen part of the tree go away Thursday evening, thanks in large part to my friend Mr. Stihl and Chad's buddy Mr. Husqvarna.

Some important lessons were affirmed by the experience.

1. Good friends are priceless and will come when you need them. Of course, you have to reciprocate.

2. When it comes to equipment, tools like generators and chainsaws are a must-have for storms. Fuel, too. Gasoline represents freedom and independence.

Freedom to travel and freedom to power tools necessary for clean up. Not to mention fuel to make electricity to keep your foods cold, your basement dry and for other essential tasks.

3. Don't overlook safety gear. Chainsaw chaps, for instance, provide cheap insurance against serious, potentially crippling injury when you're tired, wet and uncomfortable. Ditto for a bump cap or helmet. Falling objects are a thing in the aftermath of storms.



4. Speaking of safety gear, you'll need more than one pair of leather work gloves to protect your precious hands. Wet gloves lose much of their protective properties PDQ. There's a reason they sell leather work gloves in 6-packs. Buy a package of jersey gloves and use them as liners for a comfy fit in the summer and comfy plus warm in the winter.

5. Don't get dehydrated. Drink plenty of water. The first thing to go when you get dehydrated is your ability to concentrate. If you're using a chainsaw, generator or heavy equipment, a loss of concentration can turn crippling (or shocking) in an instant.

6. Even with a half-gallon of kerosene to coax things along, fresh cut cypress and pine wood doesn't burn well at all - even after being "seasoned" for a day or two. (Laugh out loud.)

7. Kiddos (pre-teens at least) often love to help. Get them appropriate sized work gloves (procured ahead of an emergency) and give them a task that's safe to keep them occupied. Don't forget the reward for following through (I failed there...) Otherwise they might bring a full-size axe out of the shed and want to help (he did).



8. If you're doing storm cleanup after dark, light is your friend. The new LED portable worklights are a little pricey compared to the old quartz halogen lights of yesteryear, but they sip electricity and are more durable. That's very helpful if you're using a generator and don't want to run out of gas before you run out of emergency.

9. Have the basics for emergency cleanup (like tarps, for instance) at home ahead of a storm, along with supplies to support your equipment like saws and generators. You may not be able to get to your local Lowe's or Home Depot - or they might not be open if they too are without electricity.

10. For those without generators, make sure you have a means to keep your phone charged! Your cellphone is your lifeline.



GSL-sponsored IDNR Introductory Wingshooting Clinic a big success (again!)

(GSL) - A lot of folks grow up thinking that you don't need to "aim" a shotgun. "Eh, just point it in the general direction and you'll hit what you're shooting at." Then, when they grow older and shoot for real, suddenly they discover it's not quite that easy. Even with a shotgun.

For those who actually like to hit what they're shooting at with their shotgun, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Wingshooting Clinics provide great training at a very affordable price. The IDNR's volunteer instructors teach for the love of helping people. What's more, they know their stuff, communicate well with others and go through a rigorous training program to get certified to teach.

Guns Save Life has sponsored one of these IDNR clinics for a number of years now.



We provide not only financial support (those "non-toxic" shells cost big bucks) but more importantly, we provide publicity that fills the seats. For the last several years we've helped fill those seats to capacity. And when people go home, they then rave about it to their friends, family and co-workers.

Here's the report I got from the clinic on the last weekend of June...

My apologies for being late in sending this but I am so pleased to say we pulled off another very successful Introductory Wingshooting Clinic at the Middle Fork

SFWA this year. The only casualties we had were some canopies that the wind got a hold of on Sunday afternoon.

There were 26 shooters on Saturday and 21 (+2 no-shows) on Sunday, consisting of 16 Youth, 16 Women and 15 Men for a total of 47 for the weekend.



I can't begin to count how many compliments I heard from our participants, like they had no idea there was a program of this caliber available or could not believe how much they learned in just one session. It is an investment of time, effort and money of many but it certainly has a big pay-out in the end with all the positive experiences our participants had learning the fundamentals of the sport of Wing-shooting.

My sincerest thanks to all of you for your contributions, whether it be financial, promoting, the delicious lunches for both days, instructing our participants, preparations of the grounds and facility or coordinating equipment, etc. etc. etc. Special thanks to Blake Warren for fixing the flat tire on my Polaris on Sunday afternoon just before going home.

Conducting a successful clinic takes a huge team effort and I am so proud to have the opportunity to work with and have the support of such a quality group of individuals.

*Terry Doyle
IDNR Master Wingshooting Instructor*

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First Amendment? What's that?

Even reading about guns is now banned in California!

(GSL) - In California, sexually explicit books remain protected in K-12 public school libraries (including in elementary schools), but periodicals about firearms are now adults-only, age-restricted material.

Junior Shooters Magazines, Inc. filed a lawsuit challenging the law last year. It's now at the US Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. They heard oral arguments on June 28th. Rest assured, when the Ninth hands down their decision, it will likely be appealed to the US Supreme Court. Whether or not SCOTUS accepts the case is another matter entirely as the Supremes only accept a handful of the thousands of petitions they receive.



Shooting sports are safe and fun... there's no cause to fear a gun

NRA Youth Shooting Camp returns

Bloomington, IL (GSL) - "This is fun!" That's how one of GSL Defense Training's new instructors described her first time volunteering at one of the nation's longest-running NRA Youth Shooting Camps in Bloomington.

Before COVID came along, the Darnall's Youth Camp was a huge undertaking with typically 130 to 150 young people ages 8-16 participating plus a hundred or more volunteers working behind the scenes with logistics. This year, in its post-COVID return, the camp shrunk to a one-day event with about 30 young people, but we still had a lot of fun as we helped lay the foundation for future growth in the coming years. After all, monster enrollments of 150 kids didn't happen overnight.

Watching the young people gain self-empowerment and confidence shooting handguns gives me plenty of satisfaction. Helping

these kids learn a life skill that might someday save their lives brings a big smile to my face.

Not only that, but we inculcated them with the fun and excitement of shooting sports. They won't grow up scared of and/or intimidated by guns. Even ten-year-old kids saw they could handle center-fire handguns including 1911 .45s when they used good fundamentals in grip and stance.

This session marked the 26th year for the event and I've been there for about twenty of those as an instructor on the pistol line. Our company, GSL Defense Training has run the line for almost ten years now.

We made sure these young men and women stayed safe while having fun and learning some life-skills.





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Any guns buried nearby?

Kentucky man discovers 700 gold coins on rural farm

Undisclosed location, KY (NY Post) - A man in Kentucky hit the jackpot after he discovered over 700 coins from the Civil War era on his rural farm.

The findings have been nicknamed the "Great Kentucky Hoard" and include a group of 1863 Double Eagles and hundreds of US gold dollars dated from 1850 to 1862, as well as a few silver coins, per Numismatic Guaranty Company, which certified the pieces.



COMING TO IL? Fairfax County, VA criminals chuckle as cops trade buckshot for beanbags

(GSL) - Let's hope the politicians in Illinois missed this story. The brain surgeons in charge of the Fairfax County, Virginia County Police have decided to trade in their buckshot for beanbags when it comes to the shotguns issued to their patrol officers. What could possibly go wrong?



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Chicago rooftop burglar shot

Chicago (CWB Chicago) — A Lincoln Park resident shot and critically injured a burglar who tried to break into their home from the roof on Thursday night, Chicago police said. It's at least the second time this week that would-be crime victims have shot suspected offenders on the North Side...

Chicago: Bold thug gets shot

Chicago (WGNTV) — A robbery suspect was shot early Wednesday morning in West Ridge by a concealed carry holder.

Just after 3:30 a.m., police said three men, ages 26, 33 and 31 were standing near their vehicle when they were approached by a man displaying a gun.

The man demanded the men's property. At some point, the 26-year-old man, who has a concealed carry license, shot the robbery suspect multiple times.



Don't go on vacation without your carry gun!

Vacationer in rental home shoots intruder

Sarasota County, FL (SNN TV) - A shooting early Sunday morning in the Gulf Gate neighborhood of Sarasota seems to have been in self-defense during a break-in.

The shooting took place about 2:15 Sunday morning when a family on vacation was awakened in their rental home by what appeared to be someone in the enclosed lanai breaking into the house in the 6500 block of Colonial Drive in Sarasota County.

One of the victims felt threatened and shot the suspect.



Pregnant woman, boyfriend shoot greedy would-be carjacker dead

Houston, TX (GSL) - When a carjacker wasn't happy taking his victims' car and walked over to pistol whip one of the victims, the pregnant girlfriend pulled out her gun and shot him. Then the boyfriend drew his own gun and got in on the action until the robber threw his gun away in surrender. The carjacker's partner fled. The robber didn't survive.



Dad shoots man accosting his 11-year-old daughter... on Father's Day

Wilson's Mills, NC (Johnson County Report)

- Wilson's Mills Police say a father fatally shot a man who had just reportedly tried to accost his daughter. The shooting happened on Father's Day in the Wilson's Mills city limits.

Wilson's Mills Police, aided by the Johnston County Sheriff's Office, responded to Parker Street, at 9:03pm Sunday, for a report of a breaking and entering in progress with someone shot.

Chief A.Z. Williams said, based on the preliminary investigation, the suspect entered the backyard of the home where children were playing outside. The suspect allegedly tried to accost an 11 year-old girl. Other children ran inside the home and alerted the mother and father.

Police said the suspect attempted to follow the children into the residence by pulling on the back door handle and shaking it violently.



Texas women have guns too!

Woman shoots intruder

Amarillo, TX (KVII) — A homeowner shot and killed a man who broke into her house, according to Amarillo police.

Around 5:30 a.m. Thursday, police responded to a residential burglary in the 1700 block of N. Adams.

When officers arrived, they found the body of 53-year-old Cedric Milligan.

Breaking through bedroom window not so romantic

Gonzales, LA (WBTZ) - A man was shot multiple times while trying to force his way into his ex's apartment over the weekend, according to police.

The Gonzales Police Department said Tuesday that 35-year-old Joshua Jones of Donaldsonville was initially hospitalized but later died from his gunshot wounds.

We have the courts, the people and the children

Gun rights has won. Live with it.

(Handwaving Freakoutery blog) - In the end, it doesn't matter, because guns won.

Household ownership went from 33% a decade ago to 47% after 2020.

Every lock down, every shutdown, every ACAB, every police defunding, every vax mandate, and every claim that either candidate was Hitler caused more guns to be sold. 47 straight months of 1 million or more guns sold.

40 million AR-15s in circulation, more than the entire US Asian population.

More 11+ round mag owners than the entire black population.

Ownership among women, blacks, and Democrats is skyrocketing over the last four years.

Fastest growing gun rights organizations are NAAGA [National African American Gun Association] and Pink Pistols.

50% of states are constitutional carry. Every kid on the planet knows that the Fortnite weapon of choice is a SCAR and wants to buy one when he turns 18.



We have the courts, the people, and the children.

Scoreboard.

You will either learn to live with guns or you will choose to pretend the guns aren't around you, but those are your only choices, sir. I hope you resolve to understand that one day.

*Georgia mayor held at gunpoint: 'Do you know who the f*ck I am?' Responding police: 'Why yes, we do! You're 'under arrest.'*

South Fulton, GA mayor held at gunpoint, arrested for burglary after homeowner pulls gun on him

South Fulton, GA (Post Millennial) - A Democrat mayor in Georgia was arrested and charged on counts of burglary and trespassing on Saturday. He also founded the Atlanta #BlackLivesMatter Chapter. He is out on a \$11,000 bond.

Khalid Kamau, the mayor of South Fulton in Atlanta, was charged with criminal trespassing and first degree burglary after he allegedly entered lake house. He stated, "I just wanted to see the house" because he "thought it was abandoned."

The lake house allegedly had visible "private property" signs on the fences around the house. According to Fox 5 Atlanta, the owner held him at gunpoint until police officers arrived.



Mayor Khalid Kamau.

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SOUND THE ALARM: Legal Insurrection in progress

(GSL) - Legal insurrection is more than a very good blog on the Internet. It's what happens when inferior court judges ignore or subvert the rule of law and/or legal precedent handed down from their superiors. What's more, it's happening right now in far too many federal and state courts.

Judges are ignoring the US Supreme Court's decisions in both *Heller* from a decade ago and *Bruen* handed down last summer. Some judges throw out a word salad decision Kamala Harris would be proud of. Others brazenly call *Bruen* stupid. Well, actually the judge wrote that it was "intellectually flawed" and as such he was ignoring it.

Then there is an Oregon judge who said the Second Amendment only applies to firearms

"in common use for self-defense." Sorry, bub. There's no "in common use for self-defense" in the Second Amendment. What's more, there's no such verbiage in the *Heller* or *Bruen* decisions. Yes, there's "in common use" but it's followed up with "for lawful purposes, such as self-defense." All that didn't stop the insurrectionist jurist from making up his own "in common use for self-defense" verbiage.

Until and unless SCOTUS smacks down these inferior court jurists flouting the rule of law, the Supremes will continue to have a full-blown legal insurrection among the inferior courts. We must follow the rule of law or we'll have anarchy.



SPOILER: It does involve handcuffs

Solution to our crime problem isn't rocket science...

The solution to our crime problem has nothing to do with pouring more money into poor neighborhoods. Nor is it gun control. The solution always has been right in front of us. It's just that some politicians don't want to make hard choices that might upset their constituencies. As a result, their constituents needlessly become victims of violent crime and sometimes even get killed.

London, for instance, has a serious crime problem. Actually, it's worse than that. Recently, London's Mayor Sadiq Khan tweeted, "We can't arrest our way out of London's crime problem." Au contraire, sir.

Frankly London is short of other options. They've already banned guns and even knives. They've adopted every soft-on-crime policy and even banned the right of self-defense of their royal subjects. Yet pervasive crime grows worse each day.

Meanwhile in the 1990s on this side of the pond, Florida not only arrested their way out of a spike in crime, but their mandatory sentencing enhancements brought firearm violent crime down to *historic* lows. Yes, the "10-20-Life" *mandatory* sentencing enhancements for using a firearm in the commission of a violent crime were harsh. The Supreme Court eventually overturned the law. Even with that, violent crime is at a 50-year-low, in part because Ron DeSantis removes Soros-funded prosecutors who don't prosecute.

Further south in the Western hemisphere, El Salvador's President Nayib Bekele mocked the "woke" London mayor. Bekele tweeted, "Wouldn't it be obvious that if we had the highest murder rate in the world, it was precisely because we had a lot of criminals on the streets that were supposed to be in jail in the first place?" He followed up with "Country with the highest murder rate = country with the highest number of criminals on the streets = country with the highest number of persons that must be put in jail to stop the murders. Am I going to fast?"

Bekele knows a thing or two about solving a massive violent crime problem. He's gained a 92% approval rating by bringing the homicide rate down 97.8% in less than eight years (6656 in 2015 to just 77 so far in 2023). Imagine if Chicago did this... Imagine bringing the 737 Chicago homicides last year down to 16 in the space of a few short years.

Yes, it requires putting lots of bad boys in bad boy prisons. El Salvadorians are okay with protecting the human rights of prisoners, but unlike states like Illinois, they prioritize the human rights of honest people over those of violent criminals.

We need to prioritize the rights of the law-abiding in America. Otherwise we're going to get more violent crime exploding in our big cities and elsewhere.

PROTECTION OF FAMILY IS A DUTY



ARE YOU UP TO IT?

MAIL CALL



Midnight basketball doesn't curb youth 'gun violence'?

Behold Gary's shocked face...

WICS Channel20 News has a story out of Champaign captioned: "City offers STEM activities to curb youth gun violence." Isn't that wonderful?

It seems I've also been operating under the faulty assumption that STEM activities are what schools are for. Wrong again.

At the same time, the same WICS ran a story about the two nitwits shown below, arrested for shooting up the parking lot of Dick's Sporting Goods at White Oaks Mall [in Springfield].



Now I learn that schools are there to foster racial grievances, promote sexual deviancy, and teach the little bastards that everyone is "wonderful just the way they are." Where else can a kid learn these valuable skills?

"STEM activities to curb youth gun violence" will give leftist do-gooders and white suburban bedwetters a big warm fuzzy while diverting money away from more policing and the prisons' need to keep these bums locked up. We already have plenty of what doesn't work, and more of it is simply stupid. The notion that these thugs are shooting up the mall parking lot for want of a science, technology, engineering, or math project to work on, is lunacy.

The City of Champaign's Community and Engagement Department would have us believe that "some of the main factors" causing thugs to run around shooting up communities is the "lack of hope and accessibility to technology."

Activities that will reduce unwed mothers and single-parent homes, and that emphasize being educated rather than "Being Black" might yield better results.

I didn't know that. I'm shocked that Midnight Basketball wasn't the solution.

Gary Hetherington
Springfield, Illinois

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



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Meeting summaries

Continued from page 3.

Sangamon County

We met at **SCHEELS** a week later than usual because of the holiday. We will return for the first Monday in August. We shared a special announcement about the meetings after that: **We will meet at the MCL Cafeteria for our September meeting on Labor Day.** Furthermore, for our **November and December meetings, we will meet at the Air Combat Museum** at the Capitol City Airport. We'll be back at SCHEELS in October and then we'll let folks know about January as it falls on January 1st.

Kelvin Coburn delivered **John Boch's Executive Director's notes**, adding his own flair to it, much to the delight of 70+ people in the audience. Kelvin also castigated the City of Springfield for failing to take care of basic services for residents.

Rosanna Pulido spoke on the threat of illegal immigration and the crime and other problems that these people bring with them. Our southern border is a mess, and it's not just people flooding the border, but also fentanyl and other illegal drugs.

We held our drawings. **Andy M.** won the **50/50** and our gun winner was also present.

Rantoul

Dick Brandt, the **Champaign County Regional Director**, led our meeting of the faithful at the **Knights of Columbus in Rantoul**.



Richard Brandt in Rantoul.

Dennis Reed shared a blessing in addition to our customary routine of the Pledge, welcoming of newcomers and recognition of our veterans. Speaking of veterans, well over a third of those present were vets.

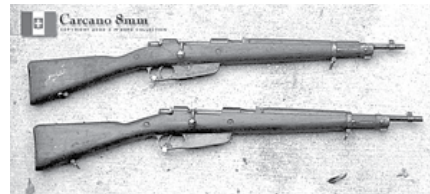
Following **John Boch's** presentation of the **Executive Director's Notes**, we welcomed **Ryan McClure**.

Mr. McClure brought a host of sports memorabilia, which wasn't exactly gun-related, but he did share the thrill of the hunt for collectibles, something gun collectors experience in our hunt for obscure or historically relevant firearms. He has a shop in Mahomet, IL **"Ryno's Fine Sports Collectibles"** with all manner of neat stuff, especially for sports enthusiasts but some of it is appealing to history buffs as well.

And speaking of historically relevant, McClure showed off signed memorabilia from very notable historical figures including **Jackie Robinson**, the first African-American to play in Major League Baseball. He also had a signed card from **Jessie Owens**, the famous African-American Olympian who humiliated some guy by the name of Adolf at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin, Germany.

For Tech Time, **Ron Beatty** took us on a dive

into the work the Germans did at the end of World War II trying to take the petite **Italian Carcano carbines** (which he said were typically fired at least a few times before being dropped) and re-chamber them for the standard 8mm Mauser round the Germans used in their war effort. The problem is that the 8mm round had half-again or more chamber pressure and the Carcanos weren't always up for it. Sometimes the guns experienced a rapid unplanned disassembly, much to the profound chagrin of the trigger pullers.



Another member kindly brought his **Colt National Match .45** as his favorite gun and spoke about its history.

We held our drawings and **Glenn T.** won the **50/50** and another fellow by the name of **Ron B.** won the gaggle of 9mm and .30-06 ammo. Congrats to both!

LaSalle County

Our **LaSalle County Regional Director Glenn Pratt** called the meeting of the faithful to order at **Jamie's Outpost in Utica**.

Glenn mentioned how **GSL** made its presence known at the **Streator Independence Day Parade**. That was a lot of fun for all involved.



Chief Larry Langston delivered **John Boch's Executive Director's** report as John was in Charleston this month.



Larry Langston.

We showcased a muzzle-loading long gun and talked about the guns of our Founding Fathers. For **Tech Time**, we showcased five popular concealed carry handguns and holsters for them.

Bill H. won the Walther sub-caliber 1911 pistol.

Northwest Chicago

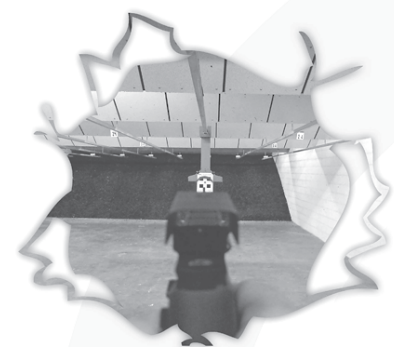
Our **Northwest Chicago** meeting proved exciting and then some as tornado sirens interrupted our meeting in the glassed-in "porch" of the **Prairie House Tavern** *three times*.



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2023 Events... Open to public



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August 12th
September 9th | October 14th
November 4th



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September 23rd | October 28th
November 18th

Trap Shooting every Friday night
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Matches start at 9a.m.

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Our NW Chicagoland Regional Director **Marcus Melnick** delivered **John's Executive Director's Report**.

The owner of **Prairie House Tavern**, a retired Chicago cop, discussed three officer-involved shootouts that he participated in during his career. It proved educational and enlightening to say the least.

The steering committee is holding elections and is accepting nominations through the July meeting. Elections will occur in August, and the newly elected committee will be installed at the September meeting.

Kyle H won the 50/50 and donated his share to the legal defense fund. Thank you, sir!
Arlie T won the .22 Taurus. Congrats!

Charleston

Keith Pippin, our **Charleston Regional Co-Director**, called the meeting of the faithful to order at **The Brickhouse Restaurant / Unique Banquet Center** in Charleston. We welcomed a number of newcomers and our crowd approached 100 people.

Before we started Keith reminded folks to **check the expiration dates on their FOID cards**. [Editor's Note: At another of the meetings, someone recounted a friend of theirs getting arrested and taken to jail over a FOID that had expired three weeks earlier. Yes, charges were dropped by the State's Attorney, but it was... inconvenient for the man arrested.] You can check your expiration by logging in at **ISPFSB.com**. And while you're there, download a digital copy of your FOID/CCW and save it on your phone!

Dave Clark bragged on his **Cumberland County High School Clay Target League**. They won 5th in Illinois at the State Championship in Bunker Hill a few weeks before. And then they competed in the US Nationals in Mason, Michigan.

A five-member team from the tiny high school in Cumberland County tied for 7th place in the nation. They brought home the 10th

place standing after the match organizers performed their tie-breaking scoring procedure. Congrats for a great year. Better yet, all five members of the team will return as seniors next year.



Tom DeVore.

The very notable attorney **Tom DeVore** dazzled the audience as our main speaker. The audience loved his presentation that was both candid and educational at the same time.

He noted that we've got the government that the people who chose to participate in last year's elections gave us. Yes, early voting and vote-by-mail are gaming the system Tom explained, but pro-gun folks like us must either engage in this "game" or we'll continue to lose. This goes double if we just complain or keep doing the same thing we've always done.

DeVore said his lawsuit challenging the new gun ban wasn't so much about the gun ban as it was a challenge to the corrupt system legislative leaders use today to pass bills in the dead of night without public input.

Courts feel public pressure, DeVore assured everyone, and as such we need to win elections and educate people or we'll lose further.

We held our drawings and **Tracy B.** won the 50/50 and **Larry M.** won himself a **Savage .350 Legend** courtesy of **X-RING CUSTOM** just in time for deer season. Larry bought the ticket by mail or at another meeting location so we don't have his photo.



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PAGING CAPTAIN OBVIOUS!

Study finds Americans reluctant to tell strangers they own guns

(Reload) - Some gun owners don't want researchers to know they own guns.

Those are the findings of a study published in Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology by the New Jersey Gun Violence Research Center at Rutgers University this month. It found estimates of how many Americans own guns could be off by as much as 45 percent. It also identified several demographics of people who may be most uncomfortable sharing information about their firearms with researchers...

The researchers identified three major groups among those they believe aren't sharing their gun ownership. The first and largest group was unmarried women who are neither white nor black and live in cities. The second group was married white men and women primarily located in urban areas. The third group was married white women who were evenly spread across rural, suburban, and urban areas. The three groups had one thing in common: they didn't have children living at home with them.



Our guns ensure this won't happen...

Kamala Harris says US must 'reduce population' to fight climate change

Baltimore (New York Post) - Vice President Kamala Harris on Friday called on the US to "reduce population" in an effort to combat climate change....

"When we invest in clean energy and electric vehicles and reduce population, more of our children can breathe clean air and drink clean water," Harris said, eliciting applause from the audience.

Another reason why we cling to our guns...

Almost half of Millennials want jail time for "Misgendering"

(ZeroHedge) - A recent survey by Redfield & Wilton Strategies for Newsweek, found that 44 percent of millennials (between ages 25-34) favor criminal charges for people who use the wrong pronouns for others or so-called "misgendering...."

Misgendering has been referred to as an "act of violence" at some U.S. universities.

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French gun control keeps the law-abiding defenseless against rampaging violent criminals

by Aidan Johnson
(Gun Owners of America via ZeroHedge) - In case you missed it, France entered into a pseudo-civil war this past weekend. Rioters took to the streets, destroyed billions of dollars in local property, violent criminals pulled out their illegal guns, and there was nothing the average disarmed Frenchman could do about it.

These recent riots proved the old adage, "When guns are outlawed, only outlaws will have guns."

France has much stricter gun laws than anywhere in the United States. French citizens do not have the individual right to bear arms, nor carry a firearm in public for self-defense. Instead, they have strict regulations for anyone that does want to keep a firearm at home...

Nevertheless, what began in France as mostly peaceful protests would end with fully automatic weapons and banned "weapons of war" being used to terrorize the streets of France.

Protesters started by burning cars, starting fires, and shooting off fireworks, but soon began using shotguns to shoot out police cameras.

Criminals soon brought out the bigger guns—semiautomatic AK-style firearms... Shortly

after that, footage surfaced online of protesters with handguns and **belt-fed machine guns** marching down the street in broad daylight. Terrorized citizens ran and screamed as security alarms blared...

France's gun control did nothing to protect its people.

Criminals dominated the streets. In this short period of civil unrest, thousands were arrested, and more than a billion dollars of damage was done to local businesses—which doesn't even include schools, town halls, or community centers.

These rioters didn't care for France's gun laws. They had illegal firearms—such as banned, fully-automatic belt-fed machine guns.

They took those illegal firearms and shot them in public to wreak havoc—without regard for France's ban on the public carry of firearms or the safety of the general public.

While armed criminals ignored French gun laws and destroyed cities, Florida's permitless concealed carry law went into effect.

Anti-gun advocates decried Florida for becoming a "more dangerous state." Yet, Florida celebrated the weekend in peace while gun-controlled France burned.

Guns are NOT the leading cause of children's deaths

by John Lott
(Real Clear Politics) - A favorite talking point from the Biden White House is that guns are the leading cause of death of children. The problem is that it is false.

"The number one cause of death of the children in America is gun violence," Vice President Kamala Harris claimed on June 2. Later the White House tweeted, "Guns are the #1 KILLER of CHILDREN." President Biden has made the same claim multiple times this year.

The Washington Post parroted this claim, running the headline: "Why guns are America's number one killer of children." Similarly, the NPR headline says: "Firearms overtook auto accidents as the leading cause of death in children," and even the BBC got in on the act: "Gun deaths were the leading killer of US children in 2020." Fact-checkers from Newsweek to Snopes also push these claims.

The first question is: What is a child? For those under 18, vehicle deaths are consistently greater than those from firearms. Adding homicides, unintentional deaths, and suicides together shows 2,443 total deaths from vehicles and 2,218 from firearms. In 2021, there were again 2,668 vehicle and 2,519 firearm deaths. When we exclude justifiable homicides that are committed in self-defense, that number falls by several hundred.

So, even if we are counting 17-year-old gang members as "children," the White House's claim is incorrect. In 2019 and 2020, more minors died from suffocation.

Homicides for all ages have been on the upswing across the country starting in 2020. Democrats blame this increase on guns while ignoring police budget cuts, refusal to prosecute violent criminals, bail reform, and mass release of many young, healthy inmates during the pandemic.

Many people would even define children at even younger ages. But the claims by gun control advocates like Biden and Harris are only possible if they define everyone under 20 as children...

The bottom line is that about a third of the firearm deaths for those under 20 involve homicide, where the victims are 18 and 19 years old. Approximately 20 percent involve homicides for 15, 16, and 17-year-olds. These deaths are largely gang-related, and even banning guns is unlikely to stop drug gangs from obtaining guns to protect their extremely valuable drugs.

Nor does it make sense to blame rising suicides on guns... Indeed, while gun bans are associated with drops in firearm suicides, there is no change in total suicides.

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GUNNEWS

SECOND AMENDMENT NEWS

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY GUNS SAVE LIFE

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Calendar



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August

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Aug 26-27: Belleville Gun & Knife Show, Belleville Fairgrounds, Belleville, IL. ECA Jeff Edwards (618) 367-3118.

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

July 9: Patriot Shoot

Breakfast returns in October.

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.

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.

FRIENDS OF NRA...

Jul 30: Illini Country, Tuscola Community Building

Aug 5: Two Rivers, Rushville Community Center

Aug 12: South Central, IL Double Tree Mt. Vernon

Aug 20: Grundy County at Morris VFW

Aug 25: Northern IL Wagner House Freeport

Aug 26: Heart of Illinois Countryside Banquet Hall Washington

Sept 12: McHenry County Holiday Inn Crystal Lake

Sept 16: Sauk Valley Rock Falls American Legion

For more info, visit FriendsOfNRA.org.

National events worthy of your time



Milwaukee, WI

Concealed Carry & Home Defense Expo

The USCCA Concealed Carry and Home Defense Expo will take place in Milwaukee, Wisconsin September 8-10. Held at the Wisconsin Center at 400 West Wisconsin Avenue, they will have all manner of seminars and lots more (including relentless pitching of their services). If you're going to this, you're probably travelling armed, which is good. The area around the Wisconsin Center will be the safest place in that city during the event, but Milwaukee has some not-so-safe neighborhoods

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Phoenix, AZ

Gun Rights Policy Conference

On September 22-24, the Gun Rights Policy Conference will take place in Phoenix at the Marriott Phoenix Airport facility (1101 North 44th Street, Phoenix AZ. If you are staying elsewhere or meeting local friends. This is the single best conference for updates on firearms legislation, court cases and International anti-gun movements. You can register by going to the Second Amendment Foundation website, SAF.org. This year's theme is "The Road to Liberty".

GSL LEADERSHIP DIRECTORY

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES: Andy McLaughlin Mclaughlin.iii.1776@gmail.com

John Boch
Executive Director
jboch@gunssavelife.com
217 649-3702

Marcus Melnick
marcus@firearmmentor.com
224-588-2489

Chicagoland
Alfreda Keith Keller
fredaka9@comcast.net
708-800-5264

OFFICERS

Rich Goodall
President
casbrisco@yahoo.com
309-737-0974

Keith Pippin
keith.pippin@yahoo.com

Glenn Pratt
pratman1776@yahoo.com
708 822-4735

LaSalle County
Glenn Pratt
pratman1776@yahoo.com
708 822-4735

John Coyne
Vice-President
johncoyne2010@gmail.com
847361-6201

Dave Randolph
bowfisher5@hotmail.com

Northwest Chicagoland
Marcus Melnick
marcus@firearmmentor.com
(224) 588-2489

Treasurer
Joanne Chandler
weims4me_us@yahoo.com

Ken Rishel
krishel@gunssavelife.com

Sangamon County Director
Tim Wier
timothywier@yahoo.com

Lois Morton
Corporate Secretary
lotheangel@reagan.com

Charles L. Sykes
charles@effectivefirearms.com

Tim Wier
timothywier@yahoo.com

Decatur
Bill Hutton
billhutton2000@gmail.com

REGIONAL

Champaign County
Dick Brandt
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TEAM LEADERS

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Charleston Co-Director
Keith Pippin
keith.pippin@yahoo.com
217 259-7420

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JBoch@gunssavelife.com
217 649-3702

Charleston Co-Director
Justin Bawcum
bawcum.justin@gmail.com
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The Armed Women of America

3rd Wednesday (6:00-8:00p)
Christian County
Locked and Loaded, Pana, IL
twaw.christiancountyill@yahoo.com

2nd Thursday (6:30-8:30p)
Bloomington-Normal
CI Shooting Sports, Normal, IL

1st Wednesday (6:00-8:00p)
Champaign County
High Caliber Training Center, Urbana, IL

2nd Monday (6:30p-8:30p)
Chicago Western Suburbs
Range at 355, Bolingbrook, IL

One Monday each month,
email twawcookohare@gmail.com for date
Cook County O'Hare
Maxon's Shooters Supply & Indoor Range, Des Plaines, IL

3rd Monday (6:30-8:30p)
Kane County
GAT Guns, East Dundee, IL

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Lake County
5 Star Firearms in Zion, IL

Last Saturday of month
Kankakee County
ISRA Range in Bonfield, IL
twawkankakee@gmail.com

First Thursday (6-8pm)
Macon County
The Bullet Trap, Macon, IL
email twaw.maconco1@yahoo.com

Last Sunday (3:00-5:00p)
Metro East St. Louis
Town and Country Gun Club, Maryville, IL

First Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Metro Peoria / River City
TacShack, Peoria, IL

3rd Monday (6:00-8:00p)
Sangamon - Menard
MTM Arms, Athens, IL

3rd Thursday (6-8pm)
Effingham County
Accuracy Firearms

3rd Thursday (6:00-8:00p)
Pocahontas
Rampart Range, Pocahontas, IL

2nd Sunday (2:00-4:00p)
Little Egypt
Tombstone Gun Range & Training Center,
Marion, IL

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
McHenry County
On Target Range, Crystal Lake, IL

3rd Thursday (6-8p)
McHenry County NORTH
Second Amendment Sports in McHenry, IL
mchenrynorthchapter@yahoo.com

2nd Tuesday (6:00-8:00p)
Winnebago County
KAP Guns, Lovespark, IL

First Tuesday 6-8p
Fox Valley
Fox Valley Shooting Range, Elgin, IL
foxvalleytwawsc@gmail.com

4th Friday (6:00-8:00p)
Quad Cities
Milan Rifle Club in Milan



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YOUR FAMILY SHOULD BE.

Oakland, CA police advise residents to 'reinforce' doors... no mention of buying a gun

Oakland, CA (SFGate) - In a public safety advisory issued Wednesday, the Oakland Police Department recommended residents reinforce their doors and install security cameras amid a spate of home invasion robberies in the East Bay city.

Thieves are ransacking homes, even when residents are present, and the department reported an increase in these break-ins across several neighborhoods, including Laurel, North Hills, Joaquin Miller and the Greater San Antonio area.



Zane Jones and Paola Nunez Linares.

Is flipping off another driver worth it?

Angry driver's middle finger leads to dead wife

Hurst, TX (Law & Crime) - A 37-year-old woman in Texas was killed in an apparent road rage incident after her husband — who was behind the wheel of their minivan — said he "flipped off" another driver who responded by firing several shots at their vehicle. The victim, identified as Paola Nunez Linares, was pronounced dead at a local hospital shortly after the incident, authorities said.



Vermont range owner, accused of offering 'Paramilitary Training,' ordered jailed until he tears down his range

Pawlet, VT (TTAG) - A Vermont "environmental" court judge has ordered shooting range owner Daniel Banyai be arrested and held in state prison until he or the town he's been feuding with for years over zoning issues — Pawlet, Vermont, population 1,386 — destroys all the structures on his private range.

'Intimidated' by open carry, or concealed carry?

New Michigan 'hate crime' bill is ripe for abuse

Lansing, MI (GSL) - The Democrats in the Michigan legislature have passed a new "hate crime" bill (HB-4474) which goes far beyond just outlawing physical violence and property damage with hate as the underlying cause. It expands to include speech or anything else that makes people "feel frightened or threatened." Or intimidated. Not only that, but it is a felony charge.

While some might think that "misgendering" someone might be covered under this law, it seems likely that those frightened by firearms and gun owners might claim to be intimidated by guns lawfully carried, spurring a potential arrest and prosecution.



NYC "Gun Free" Zone epic fail as killer shoots 4, kills 1

NYC (NBC News) - A man used a motorized scooter to get from victim to victim in a New York City shooting spree on Saturday that ended with one dead, three injured, and a suspect in custody, police said.

The man, identified only as a 25-year-old with a prior arrest, had a 9 mm semiautomatic handgun with an extended magazine and an "illegal" scooter without plates, New York Police First Deputy Commissioner Edward Caban said at a news conference.



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TOUGH COOKIES, LADY

Would-be cop killer's mom upset about 'tombstone' marking the death of her son in police breakroom

Seattle (Times) - The mother of a young [b]lack man killed by Seattle police in 2017 is outraged and demanding an apology after learning officers kept a mock tombstone marking her son's death on a shelf in a precinct break room...



[Damarius] Butts died after fleeing a robbery at a downtown convenience store where he had displayed a handgun and demanded beer. Officers chased him onto a loading dock at the federal building on Western Avenue, where an exchange of gunfire left three officers injured — one seri-

ously, with a bullet in his chest. Butts suffered 11 gunshot wounds and bled to death as officers waited outside. The department cleared the officers, and an inquest jury found the shooting justified.

Ann Butts, the young man's mother, said his family misses him every day.

[Editor's take: So police celebrated a life-and-death shoot out where they vanquished a low-life criminal? At worst it's poor taste, but so is shooting at other people, including police.

Not only that but does anyone think this robbery was Mr. Butts' first rodeo? More likely, he was aspiring to become a professional criminal. What's more, if he's willing to attempt to shoot and kill multiple police officers, he certainly would have zero compunction from killing anyone who looked at him crossways.]

It doesn't support their fake news narrative... too bad none of his victims had a gun!

Another mass murder story buried by media

Hampton, GA. (AP) — Officers on Sunday shot and killed a man wanted in four weekend killings near Atlanta during an exchange of gunfire, with a sheriff's deputy and two police officers wounded while trying to take the suspect into custody, authorities said.

Officials said Andre Longmore was shot during an intense manhunt for the 40-year-old suspect. The exchange of gunfire came a day after Saturday morning's

shootings rocked a bucolic subdivision in Hampton, south of Georgia's main city.



The dead perp.

Hampton Police Chief James Turner said the four killed Saturday were all residents

of the same Dogwood Lakes neighborhood where Longmore lived, and were all were shot within a 10-minute span.



The dead victims.

He identified the victims as 67-year old Scott Leavitt and his wife, 66-year old Shirley Leavitt, as well as 65-year-old Steve Blizzard and 66-year-old Ronald Jeffers.

HUMOR: Double trouble this month

Donations for President Putin and Scarecrows

Pity poor Putin
Russian President Vladimir Putin is held hostage by a terrorist. A Russian truck-driver stops at the back of a long queue on the motorway. He sees a policeman walking down the line of stopped cars to briefly talk to the drivers.

As the policeman approaches the truck, the truck driver rolls down his window and asks, "What's going on?"



Some Moscow State University students who described themselves as fans of Putin.

The policeman brings him up to speed. "A terrorist is holding President Putin hostage in a car. He's demanding 10 million rubles, or he'll douse Putin in petrol and set him on fire. So we're asking drivers for donations."

"Oh, ok. How much do people donate on GunNews Magazine - 24 - August 2023

average?" the driver asks the cop.

Policeman: "About a gallon."

The Scarecrow
Two crows were in a field when they noticed a figure that looked like a man in the distance.

"See that over there? What is that?" asks the first crow.

The second crows takes a long look, "That's a scarecrow. Looks authentic, doesn't it."

"How can you tell it's a scarecrow and not a person?" asks the first crow.

"Look at its hand. No cellphone," says the second crow.



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