

It is a Good Day for Liberty.

I've listened to an audiobook "Level Zero Heroes." It concerns a detachment of Marines assigned to protect a village of Afghans who wanted to kill them. The author had taken specialized training in calling in air support. This is important; the American military relies on air support. When innocent persons are hit their relatives down to distant cousins are obligated to take revenge. The author was horrified to learn that the Afghan intelligence officer had contacts among the enemy. Certain families sent members to fight on both sides. This is the rule in unconventional warfare. When digging in on an old Russian position they found the skeleton of a Russian soldier, which they took to be ominous. On one occasion they had a group of Taliban cornered in a village and were astonished to see a van waived through the Afghan Army positions into the village. They stopped it on the way out and were told that it had been sent to recover the bodies of a woman and her daughter who had been killed by an American bomb. The men in the back reeking of gunpowder were identified as the burial party. The bodies each had one wound, made by a 7.62 mm bullet at close range. The Marines had been firing 5.56mm. The Taliban had killed the women as an excuse to escape. These being women they were of no importance. They tried to get compensation from the Marines for the women's deaths. They did not get it. This is reality in unconventional war. Winning such a war is tricky.

I see that the hand sign for "OK" is reputed to be a symbol of white supremacy. Anyone who has innocently used this sign in the past has some explaining to do. Their license plates will be broken and their driver's license stamped "Not Good for Washington DC." They may be sent to Viet Nam, although that is not as dismal a destination as it once was.

I have had my first covid shot. I am now marginally healthier and more socially acceptable than before. The volunteers at the vaccination facility seemed uncommonly enthusiastic and helpful, like they were on commission. I have not suffered any side effects, much less the genetic modifications the conspiracy theorists claim. If I grow a second head I will let you know.

The local tabloid has published a lengthy article on the horrors of adult abusers having guns. Laws must be passed! Buried in the editorial masquerading as news is a sentence stating federal law already prohibits convicted adult abusers from having guns. So it is already illegal but we need to pass one more law on the same subject. It would be comical if the new law did not have further restrictions.

Restrictions is the word. I heard media reports on gun law "reform" but it is always restrictions that are being imposed.

Vice-President Harris has declared that proposed restrictions do not take away the Second Amendment. The poet declares, "If a clod be washed away by the sea, Europe is the less, as well as if a promontory were." For many years, the usual suspects have taken small slices of the Second Amendment under the delusion that we shall not notice. We have noticed. Over the last century the gun community has compromised over every restrictive scheme thrown at us. From the Pistol and Revolver Act of 1922 to the bump-stock ban, we have compromised. Now they must compromise. Before they demand any more restrictions they, must tell us which of our rights they shall never restrict, if someone else tries to restrict them will they stand with us and defend them, and why should we believe them?

Cinco de Mayo is nearly upon us. The fifth of May is a Mexican holiday commemorating a victory of the Mexicans over the French army. Local citizens took up arms and defeated one of the best armies in Europe at the time. The Mexican Constitution contains the right to possess arms. However various dictators have enacted "common sense" laws to make that right impossible to exercise. On this Cinco de Mayo buy a Mexican-American a beer and tell him that we are trying to preserve the rights of Mexicans in this country.

Attacks on Asian-Americans are said to have increased in the last year. This is blamed, of course, on President Trump referring to covid as the "Chinese virus." It takes a special kind of stupid to take the President's remark as permission to attack Asians in general. China is a large part of Asia, but Asians will be quick to tell you that there are other countries on the continent. An elderly Chinese woman was attacked by a bully twice her size. She picked up a board and laid him out. The bully was carried away in an ambulance and bystanders had to restrain the woman from caressing him with her assault board. Good on her. A go-fund-me account was established for the lady which has raised almost a million dollars. She said she would use it to help the Asian community. I hope she will keep a slice to buy a pistol and lessons one how to use it. One cannot rely on a board being available at all times.

The usual suspects claim that guns should be controlled like cars. OK. I can buy as many cars as I want. I don't have to have government permission to buy cars. I can buy cars that go faster than any known speed limit. I don't need a background check to buy a car. I don't need a government license to drive unless

I drive on government roads. The only reason my car is registered and licensed is to ensure that I pay my taxes for those government roads.

Missouri's first elk hunt authorized five permits. Five elk were taken. One man shot his from his back porch. The next elk season cannot expect that kind of luck. We can expect a next elk season. We can expect more licenses in the future.

Many people have used their stimulus checks to buy guns, and ammunition, so much ammunition. I have read a number of statements from ammunition companies to the effect that they are cranking out all they can produce and are still a year behind in orders. The reasons is—us. We buy up ammunition as soon as it hits the store. Prices are raised and stores limit purchases and still inventory is sold out. We are not shooting that much ammunition we are squirreling it away because we fear crime and not being able to acquire more. I hear that reloaders have the same problems. There are stories that most of our lead comes from China. This may be true but there is plenty of scrap lead for bullets. Primers and powders are being snapped up. Next it will be bows and arrows.

We should be squirreling away this money to finance lawsuits. The NRA and Second Amendment Foundation have cases percolating through the system with the object of the Supreme Court giving an authoritative decision on the scope of our rights and the standard of proof the usual suspects must reach to infringe them. If this current administration reaches its goal we will need to finance several lawsuits. The Supreme Court can be choosy about what cases it will take. We need to have a number of cases in motion. The last gun case that reached the Supreme Court cost \$2.5 million. I know of a case that reached the Supremes, only to be sent back for further proceedings. In such a case we need to have another case to throw at them. The Court has refused to take a number of Second Amendment cases. If we keep sending them up it will realize that they have to make a decision.

Kelvin Curtis, our NRA-ILA representative, is forming a list of persons who want to be informed of legislative action or activities in the state. I'm on his list. I try to be on as many lists as possible and his is a good one.

Rally Day will be Wednesday 28 April, 2021 from 10 AM to Noon in the Rotunda of the Capital Building in Jefferson City. This is a great occasion to let the government know that we will not accept any more restrictions on our rights.

In the words of two great time travelers, "Be excellent to each other!"

We shall overcome.