

It is a Good Day for Liberty.

President Biden has dropped the nomination of David Chipman as director of the BATF. Mr. Chipman has been a paid anti-gun activist for many years. The obstacle to his nomination appears to be some racist remarks he made years ago. The President has threatened to make him his “gun czar.” This appears to be a position in which Mr. Chipman can instruct various government agencies on how to harass and slander gun owners.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation reports that 3.2 million people bought guns for the first time in the first half of this year. This is in addition to the over 8 million new gun owners last year. The NSSF is the trade association for gun manufacturers. The new shooters break down into increases in women and minority gun owners. The left hates this; all the more reason to welcome the new gun owners.

Sheriff Britton Ferrell of Mississippi county Missouri blames our gun laws for a shooting at a car show in his county. He calls our gun laws “hug a thug” legislation. He especially criticizes the recent Second Amendment Preservation Act. The gun owners of Missouri are not thugs. We are law abiding citizens who want to protect our families from thugs who open fire at car shows.

There is a news report of a woman shooting a peeping tom. She reports seeing him looking through her window, became frightened, took up her rifle and fired. The peeping tom was badly injured. The bullets went through the wall. Two points come to mind. First, you cannot shoot a peeping tom. You can only shoot when in reasonable fear of deadly force. Being frightened is not enough. Invasion of privacy is not enough. Second, many people do not realize they can shoot through walls. This is a safety and tactical concern. If an assailant takes cover behind furniture or a wall it is possible to shoot through the barrier and resolve the situation. One commentator wrote that in the thousands of shootings he has reviewed he has never seen a criminal shoot through a flimsy barrier. This puts criminals at a disadvantage. Do not tell them.

Niya McAdoo is the president of the Kansas University student body. On 3 September she tweeted “Death to America.” She does not think that America properly respects her. I do not believe this tweet will help her get the respect she demands.

Division is rampant in this country. There cannot be disagreement over any issue it must be reflexive, screaming division. No one listens. The other side is assumed to operate from vile motives; the word racist is bandied about. We cannot afford to have such divisions in our movement. I have seen references to disputes among Florida gun owners concerning the Florida representative for Gun Owners of America. I am not clear on what the problem might be. Other persons are upset at the NRA for reasons that have been repeatedly hashed out. We should focus on those matters on which we agree. Abuse between gun groups only helps the opposition. We should resolve disputes among ourselves. Sending screeds over the internet does not solve problems. Face-to-face meetings solve problems.

The last time we were united as a country was when terrorists flew airplanes into our buildings. We were briefly united when Osama Bin Laden was killed; although then Vice-President Biden opposed the raid. Certainly we can agree on something, fresh air and sunshine comes to mind.

This week marks the 38th year I have been practicing law. I do not plan any celebrations. I shall go to the American Legion gun show, but I would do that anyway. When I began practicing law claiming a Second Amendment right to own guns was considered radical. The establishment view was that it was an absolute constitutional right to join the National Guard. Now it is mainstream. The argument has now shifted to the extent of the right; does it cover concealed carry, semi-automatic rifles or hand braces for handguns? This shows that we have many hard fights ahead; but we are winning.

The 17th of September is also the anniversary of the adoption of the Constitution of the United States. The Constitution had a long fight for ratification, and it took the Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court a week to sign my Bar admission. Nothing good happens like flicking on a light switch.

I remember a Massachusetts attorney who called me for advice. His client was moving to Missouri and wanted to know what he had to do to own guns in our state. “Pay for them,” I said. He had a number of specific questions about restrictions involving semi-automatic guns, magazine capacity, registration, permits and more. I had to convince him that we don’t do any of those things. It gave me a warm fuzzy feeling about all the efforts we have put into making this a free state.

Last month I wrote (off topic) about COVID. It is still with us. President Biden intends to order all companies employing more than 100 persons to require their employees to be vaccinated. He intends to have the Occupational Safety and Health Administration run this program. Missouri law allows employers to fire people for such a reason. There is some question if the President can order it. There is no better way to inspire resistance to vaccination. Lawsuits are threatened. This takes time away from discussion over if vaccination is a good idea. For that you should consult your doctor, a real doctor, not

some strange web site claiming to be run by a doctor. If you do not have a doctor ask a local hospital for a list of general practitioners.

One bright day we shall have a range day and shoot these masks.

December 15th is the anniversary of the Bill of Rights. That would be a good day for a mask massacre. I just hope it will be this December.

A “security guard” in Chicago ordered a maskless man to leave a liquor store. The man went out, started to come back in and the “security guard” shot him. The “security guard” went outside and shot him again. He walked around, then shot him again. He was arrested. He claimed self-defense. He argued that the maskless man might have had covid and might have infected people in the store. There are two “mights” there. Even one would take it out of the realm of self-defense. For self-defense there must a reasonable fear. A speculative fear is not enough. The maskless man might have been guilty of trespass after being ordered to leave; but that does not justify death. The “security guard” had four felonies on his record and was on the sex offender registry. The fool who hired him as an armed security guard may be in some legal trouble.

In any self-defense case one does not have to act perfectly, only reasonably. Of course, the closer one gets to perfect the better. There was a judge in Kansas City who used to say “The last perfect person got crucified.” Get close to perfect but be careful.

I met a man who said that he has all the guns that he wants. I cannot say the same. Even excluding guns that have only recently arrived on the market, there are guns I simply want to own. I have very little time to shoot as it is, but I want to own.

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

We shall overcome.