

# THE *BULLY*

DONATIONS ACCEPTED

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## WHY THEY FOUGHT: PROMOTING LIBERTY

Part VIII

By Larry "Lorenzo" Swickard

"The liberal elite know that they are philosopher kings. They know that the people simply cannot be trusted; that they are incapable of just and fair self-government; that left to their own devices, their society will be racist, sexist, homophobic, and inequitable; and the liberal elite know now to fix things. They are going to help us live the good and just life, even if they have to lie to us and force us to do it. And they detest those who stand in their way...The private ownership of firearms is a rebuke to this utopian zeal. To own firearms is to affirm that freedom and liberty are not gifts from the state."<sup>1</sup>

Blink. If you did, you might have missed winter. When I grew up, September's arrival showed summer the door, October's chill brought frost on the pumpkins, and November breathed the first lace of snow. But it's the day after Thanksgiving and I just completed a hike in trousers and T-shirt and I'm sweating. The woods offers one of the few escapes from a madhouse ironically called civilization. But now this is threatened by internet maps and warm temps bringing gadget-afflicted hoi polloi to the woods in greater and dumber numbers. Today<sup>2</sup> I encountered people bundled up as if manning a ship's bow during a North Atlantic storm. It got worse. Reaching the turn-around point of a remote 9+ mile trail, I came upon a man clad in a heavy coat and orange hunter's vest. Held in his hands was no classic rifle, walnut stock and blued barrel, but a leaf-blower! You can't make this up. Perhaps, looking for a lost item, he dragged this inferno machine into the same woods where I sought nature's peace and quiet. Cold weather is the only known deterrent to this behavior. It cleans tourists out of the woods. Jackson County residents have their priorities straight. Resoundingly they voted down ballot measures raising taxes on cigarettes but voted yes on proposition L funding public library expansion. Its few patrons typically are private tutors and middle-agers on social-media. Raising property taxes on homeowners provides the financing. Up goes my house payment...again. Thanks a lot neighbors. Any way you slice it, using the levers of government power to take money from others to fund your pursuits is robbery (it's that whole "Pursuit of Happiness" Declaration thing). It's already bad enough that Jackson County raises taxes through reassessment schemes. Freeloaders and those not paying property taxes should be barred from voting to raise the taxes of those who do. When the Zombie Apocalypse comes, I hope they have food, water, ammunition, and can run. They won't be getting any help from me.

*Commodus Obamus* sullied the Medal of Freedom, America's highest civilian honor, through the people upon whom it was bestowed. Armed Forces members do more to promote freedom the day they enlist than most civilians do in a lifetime. Multiply that by each day served. For civilians to merit such an honor they should have performed a monumental act of service and self-sacrifice in furtherance of freedom. Obama awarded; Kareem Abdul Jabbar: former basketball star now Muslim and Sharia propagandist, Elouise Cobell: Indian independence activist, Ellen DeGeneres: Christian bashing lesbian activist praised by Obama for having the courage to "come out," Robert DeNiro: actor and leftist crank, Bill and Melinda Gates: large donors for a myriad of leftist causes, Richard Garwin: physician, Frank Gehry: architect, Margaret Hamilton: NASA software engineer, Tom Hanks: actor and activist for "social and environmental justice," Grace Hopper: former admiral and computer programmer, Michael Jordan: former basketball player and activist for Hillary Clinton, Maya Lin: artist and environmental activist, Lorne Michaels, screen writer and leftist activist, Newt Minow: attorney and leftist activist who helped shape FCC policy, Eduardo Padron: "national voice for access and inclusion, and innovative teaching and learning strategies," Robert Redford: actor, friend of Fidel Castro, and activist for many leftist causes, Diana Ross, singer, Vin Sculley, baseball announcer, Bruce Springsteen: over the hill rocker and radical environmental activist, and Cicely Tyson: actress and activist for "black" causes.<sup>3</sup> Journalist Joe Saunders notes these names look "like the guest list at a Hillary Clinton Fundraiser or a who's who gathering of well-known Democrat activists."<sup>4</sup> They may be fine people, exemplars of their profession, but what has any of them done to promote freedom? Obama further exacerbated this ignominy by proclaiming on University of North Carolina's campus; "It's because of you that a Marine can serve his country without hiding the husband he loves."<sup>5</sup> Staff Sergeant S. Philip

Swickard, Dad, USMC, who fought in the Korean War (and passed away last Christmas), must be turning over in his grave. It made me ill writing such words. Is our culture dead? Have gonadalphobic snowflake Millennials become the dominant culture? Are there any men left?

The purpose of this series is to reprise the forgotten history of America's founding and principles that made her great. Fundamental to this understanding is knowledge of why the colonies sep-

### IN THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S CORNER PAGE 2

LIBERTY NOTES PAGE 3

EVENTS • COURSE PAGE 5

FOUGHT (Continued on page 4)



*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the 2nd Amendment*

**The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to:**

1. **Counter the designs of malicious legislators.**
2. **Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.**
3. **Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.**
4. **Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.**
5. **Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.**
6. **Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.**
7. **Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation**
8. **Make politicians aware that gun owners are awakening from their accustomed apathy and**  
**WILL TOLERATE NO FURTHER EROSION OF THEIR FREEDOMS**

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**PRESIDENT'S CORNER**

**THE UNDECLARED HOLIDAY**

My deadline for this column is 15 December. This is the anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights on 15 December, 1791. This is an important anniversary, but has never been declared a holiday. Too bad.

The Bill of Rights grants no rights. It recognizes rights that already exist. It says that the government shall not violate these rights. It says so. It consists of words on paper. To stop the government requires us to stand up and protect our rights. Just as a gun will not work unless someone makes it work. A right is not effective until someone makes it work.

There are people trying very hard to make our right not work. While we won the elections, they were winning three out of four anti-gun initiative petitions. The people of Maine voted one down. This means that the gun community spent enormous amounts of money law to make the law stay the same. The usual suspects will be back later to try again.

They are likely to be here. Missouri has an initiative petition process in which the public votes to make a proposal law. We have seen that work before. The government at various levels will use taxpayer resources to pass anti-gun initiatives.

In 2018 Missouri driver's licenses will not pass the "Real ID Act." This means that we cannot use them to get on air transportation. Of course there are other times we need to show our driver's licenses. Every time we buy a gun we have to show identification. If our driver's licenses are no longer good for federal purposes we can have trouble.

Lawsuits are pending against Missouri gun dealers. This upsets the insurance companies. If dealers get sued, their insurance rates go up. This means their overhead goes up, as does the price of their product. A judge in Colorado struck down a similar (Brady Campaign) lawsuit as frivolous and awarded the defendant gun dealer \$230,000 in legal fees. The Brady people walked away and left the plaintiffs to pay the judgement. Colorado has a law



## LIBERTY NOTES

By Kevin L. Jamison

allowing such awards; we do not. We should. We can if we make the effort.

We have a friendly president with a friendly congress and a friendly governor with a friendly legislature. We have had those things before and it was still like pulling teeth to get anything done. We have to proceed as if we have to fight for everything. It has always been so.

Freedom is not free. We pay rent on our rights.

Thank-you for the honor of making me your president.

"The moral justification of capitalism is man's right to exist for his own sake, neither sacrificing himself to others nor sacrificing others to himself; it is the recognition that man — every man — is an end in himself, not a means to the ends of others, not a sacrificial animal serving anyone's need."

—Ayn Rand (1905-1982)

"The electoral college worked great in 2008 and in 2012. The only difference this time is the outcome is one the NYT doesn't like."

—Stephen Miller

"We have every right to dream heroic dreams. Those who say that we're in a time when there are no heroes, they just don't know where to look."

—Ronald Reagan

"The issue here isn't who elected Donald Trump. The American people did. The issue is the power of the Russians and presumably others to get into our systems and disrupt what we do. And the deeper issue is we have had an administration ... that does nothing. It does absolutely nothing to deter the other power."

—Charles Krauthammer

"Before Obamacare, you could go bankrupt if you got sick. After Obamacare, you go bankrupt from premiums before you get sick."

—Frank Fleming

"Newspaper editors separate the wheat from the chaff — and print the chaff."

—Adlai E. Stevenson

It is a good day for Liberty.

Missouri Supreme Court Judge Teitelman is dead. Judge Teitelman authored several decisions that were anti-gun. I don't know if that was his prejudice or he really believed the law of the case went against us. Of course a majority of the court and sometimes all of the justices agreed with him. Our new Governor will appoint a successor from a list approved by a panel. The panel takes application from hopefuls and distills them down to a short list it sends to the governor. The governor could reject all of them and ask for another list. I do not recall that ever happening. I do not think this will be a monumental change on our court. In any case, I shall not be one of the applicants.

A study claims that Kansas City has more gunshot victims than most other cities. Such studies are usually the result of twisting data to fit a prejudice. It will be used as an excuse to demand local control of gun law, and to legislate against us. The Mayor claims that the legislature does not address persons who should not have guns. The Mayor should have his legal staff read the Missouri and Federal laws prohibiting persons from owning guns; he clearly cannot read them himself.

A new movie is out as a vehicle to promote anti-gun lies. The movie is "Ms. Sloan." It claims that "Any nutjob can buy an assault weapon without so much as an ID." This is such a blatant lie that it should not require refuting, and yet it does. The movie has a "gun lobby" figure say "There are 5 million of us and we are armed." He then makes a gesture as if shooting a pistol. There is the old Gobbels claim about big lies and if a lie is told often enough it becomes the truth. We have to tell the truth. We have to tell it often. We have to tell it in letters to newspapers and magazines, talk radio and people at work. Of course, there is a fine line here between advocacy and the office pest. When people move away when you approach, you have crossed it.

I saw the DVD "Restless." It concerns old enemies from WW II settling scores some forty years later. Patience is usually a virtue but these people were simply procrastinating. In one scene an old spy goes into a British gunshop and buys a12 gauge. In the 1980's one could do that. The old spy specifies #4 shot, lead not steel. The clerk places two handy boxes on the counter and remarks that these "Will stop an elephant." In later scenes the shotgun has been sawed off. One suspects the old spy but I have heard of guns doing more peculiar things.

There is a TV series called "Penny Dreadful." In one episode set in late 1890's London a vampire hunter goes into a British gunshop and buys a 7.63 mm 1896 Mauser pistol. The clerk remarks on the velocity of the cartridge and says that these "would stop an elephant." Perhaps Britain has more fragile elephants than the rest of the world. It could be slang. There could be a species of British rabbit they call an elephant. In Africa a real elephant shot with such cartridges would stop what it was doing to be sure, but only to stomp the shooter into a greasy spot without filing an environmental impact statement.

In the Penny Dreadful TV series British vampires can be killed with gunshots to the head. In the rest of the world vampires are tougher to kill. Of course, the Mafia used to rub garlic into its bullets in the belief that made them more deadly. Garlic is deadly to vampires. Perhaps that is what is going on. More research is required.

I was contacted by a reporter for an anti-gun newspaper. It is not only anti-gun but a Bloomberg front. He wanted some background concerning a St. Louis shooting at year ago. A man saw a teenager rummaging around in his car, stepped outside his house and shot him. The St. Louis prosecutor claimed they could not prosecute him for murder because of the Castle Doctrine. The writer wanted to know if that was true. I was floored. I could not answer for a moment. It is a monumental falsehood. Yes, the

LIBERTY (Continued on page 4)

**LIBERTY** (Continued from page 3)

Castle Doctrine applies to the area around your house, including the driveway where the car was parked. That does not mean that you can shoot anyone in this area, even if they are committing a crime. They must place the homeowner or person lawfully there in reasonable fear of “unlawful force.” Unlawful force appears to be any amount of physical force not invited by the occupant. I would say that there should be an intent to hurt, the only case on point involves the victim being slapped across the body and kneed in the groin. The prosecutor did press charges for being a felon in possession of a firearm. The prosecutor may have taken the opportunity to slander the Castle Doctrine.

A St. Louis Alderwoman (who is running for mayor) has proposed a City Ordinance prohibiting “assault weapons” in the City. She also would make it a crime to fail to report a stolen gun. The Alderwoman is probably putting on a show for her voters. St. Louis cannot enact these laws, legally, under our preemption law. They are more restrictive than state law. However, St. Louis can get away with it if no one complains. Our sister organization the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance promises to complain.

The annual Gun Rights Rally is April 12, 2017 in the Rotunda of the Capital Building in Jefferson City Missouri. It will start at 10 AM. Please try to clear your calendars. If there is enough interest we will charter a bus or van. Please attend the March General Membership meeting so we can get a head count.

A local auction company has auctioned off a collection of firearms. It calls this auction “Freedom has a nice ring to it, and a bit of recoil.” A good phrase.

The evil creature who killed nine people at a church in South Carolina gave a videotaped statement to detectives. He had decided to kill African-Americans for reasons sufficient to his demented mind. He said that he thought about killing drug dealers, but was afraid that they might shoot back. He picked the church because the people were more likely to be meek. This is what we have been telling people for nearly thirty years. “Gun free” zones attract mass killers.

I saw an internet news report of a cowboy who rode his horse to a Wal Mart where he discovered that a thief was riding off on a woman’s bicycle. He swung his rope, lassoed the bike rustler, tied him to one of the decorative trees, and called the police. When the police arrived he asked for his rope back and rode off. It’s the cowboy way.

There is a proposal in Canada to legalize the possession of peppergas and mace. The Canadian govern-

ment’s Minister for Women (there is such a post) is furious. She said, “[The proposal is unrealistic and offensive to women [and] places the onus on women to defend themselves.” She promised instead a “federal gender-based violence strategy.” The proposal does not place the “onus” on women to do anything. A “gender-based violence strategy” might be a useful weapon if engraved on an AR-15. That is Canada. That is what the usual suspects want here. We have had some success. The fight goes on.

We shall overcome.

**FOUGHT** (Continued from page 1)

arated from Britain and role played by an armed citizenry in overthrowing a powerful empire. Instead of simply a dust-up over tax rates, the economic and political rationale for independence was grounded in Judeo-Christian principles and not those of the French Revolution.

Future first vice president John Adams was learned in politics, history, and religion. The principles and values of his “Puritan forebears”<sup>6</sup> exerted significant influence on him including what became known as the “Protestant work ethic” which viewed idleness as a sin and taught through work, including in the public sphere, one showed they were approved of by God.<sup>7</sup> Adams was driven in part by this ethic to pursue accomplishments in public life with his ambition and behavior “governed by the moral code of culture, a code that was still largely Puritan.” For him, “piety and virtue” were more important than public acclaim and wealth. For example, Adams took a dim view of men drinking in taverns not so much as a religious objection to alcohol but to wasting time. They could be doing something productive instead. Lounging in taverns also caused men to waste money going into debt. For Adams and others, opposition was grounded in moral principle.<sup>8</sup> This religious worldview sheds light on why Britain was such a threat to Americans. England was “corrupt as well as powerful.” If Americans failed to resist British control over American cultural, social, and political life, then “virtue, piety, and liberty would be lost.” These convictions guided Adams’ conduct throughout the Revolution.<sup>9</sup>

During Boston’s occupation by British soldiers, leaders in every colony exchanged letters and wrote pamphlets in support of their Massachusetts brethren. Meeting together, they discussed ways convince the king to withdraw troops and end onerous taxes and trade regulations hurting local economies. It was also important they demonstrate loyalty to King George III for, if Great Brit-

**FOUGHT** (Continued on page 5)

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**COMING EVENTS**

• • •

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May 23, 2017

July 25, 2017

Sept. 26, 2017

Nov. 28, 2017

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To Be Announced

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Feb. 18-19, 2017

March 18-18, 2017

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[www.wmsa.net](http://www.wmsa.net)****FOUGHT** (Continued from page 4)

ain could grind Massachusetts under its heel, the same fate awaited them all. This frightening realization led to a call for delegates from each colony of to meet and map out a unified strategy opposing objectionable British policies. They formed The First Continental Congress, which met on 5 September 1774, in Philadelphia.<sup>10</sup> By the time it adjourned on 26 October 1774, delegates agreed to petition King George III expressing grievances but also declaring loyalty to the Crown. In the meantime, they formed a Continental Association through which colonists "expressed values which tied Americans together." It illustrated efforts to "protect their right of self-government" were grounded in a "moral concern transcending the constitutional questions in conflict." This was demonstrated by the Association's resolve to "encourage frugality, economy, and industry" abstaining from drunkenness and gambling. Most important, through these resolves Congress "intended to remind American that their virtue---their commitment to the public interest---underlay their political freedom" and "without virtue, all kinds of freedom would perish." Words describing behaviors destructive of virtue were "born of the Protestantism that had existed in the colonies since their founding." Americans took stock of the type of people they were and the harm to that way of life, founded on the Puritan ethic, resulting from a continued relationship with England.<sup>11</sup>

Known as the Provincial Congress, the Association reconvened in November, 1774 dissolving in December. The main point of contention among delegates was non-importation and boycott of British goods. At issue was how economic pressure on Britain could work if colonies and merchants cheated as they had in prior boycotts. Even when they agreed on a boycott, colonies sought exemptions for locally produced goods and regionally important trade. The final issue was how to address occupation troops in Boston.<sup>12</sup> Samuel Adams approved proposals including "large-scale preparations---20,000 militia seemed a good number, and an immediate attack on the red coats as an appropriate course of action." Other leaders expressed qualms over launching a war against Britain. Thomas Cushing warned once Massachusetts commenced action, she would fight alone. The British would have to commit the most extreme and violent "outrages" to coax other colonies to fight alongside Massachusetts. Adams disagreed assuming a much greater degree of colonial unity than Cushing.<sup>13</sup>

British General Gage knew of the proposals coming out of the First Continental Congress and efforts by militias to obtain arms and powder. He concluded only through decisive force could Americans be brought "to heel" but he needed more troops. Resistance was brewing. Colonial anger to Gage seizing gunpowder in Charleston and cannons in Cambridge was overwhelming. Militias from as far away as Connecticut marched to Boston's aid. Rumors of war spread quickly and men, almost four-thousand in number, began assembling to fight. Toward that eventuality, the Provincial Congress appropriated money for arms and military supplies. They decided if Gage sent so much as 500 troops out from Boston, the militia would be called up. Each step and counter step brought adversaries closer together.<sup>14</sup> Expecting the worst, Gage fortified Boston, amassed supplies, and requested additional soldiers from Parliament. He also acquired intelligence through spies, informants and even members of the Provincial Congress who could be bought. He sent out scouts to map roads leading from Boston into the counties. Before long colonists discovered the scouts, disguised as locals, on reconnaissance missions, confronted them with death threats, and compelled their return to Boston. Americans concluded a pending attack was the only reason for mapping expeditions especially when they all led to Concord and Lexington. Paul Revere was one of many reporting on every move made by the British. Gage knew colonists were well armed and determined to oppose his "stranglehold" on Boston and any attempt to occupy more of the colony.<sup>15</sup>

**FOUGHT** (Continued on page 6)



### FOUGHT (Continued from page 5)

Because Americans possessed arms before Gage's occupation, there was no debate over their right to possess them. As subjects of the realm they claimed the right to keep and bear arms for personal security, personal liberty, and "private property," all rights found in English law. People retained the "natural right of resistance and self-preservation when the sanctions of society and laws are found insufficient to restrain the violence of oppression."<sup>16</sup> In other words, chief reasons for an individual right to keep and bear arms included self-defense, protection of property, and resistance to tyrannical governments. Claiming no new right, John Adams reminded the British that under natural law, and affirmed by English "constitutional law," Americans had the same rights as Englishmen. The right to arms was long predicated on it being the means by which people protected themselves against threats to life from anyone be they criminals, kings, or governments. Americans understood it was vital to "guarantee personal security and liberty" and applied to individuals uniting to resist oppression.<sup>17</sup> Adams observed that military power was "forever dangerous to civil rights." But people trying to convince colonists never to exercise this right or paralyze them with fear. Throughout history, oppression against people typically came from militaries controlled by governments, a king in this case. Regardless of the source of oppression, people retained the right to take up arms against tyrants.<sup>18</sup>

In response to growing colonial resistance, Gage had two options; arrest leaders of the Provincial Congress in Massachusetts in September of 1774, or seize munitions stored at Concord and Worchester to snuff out rebellion. His reconnaissance in force only served to alarm locals. Gage received instructions on 14 April 1775, from William Legge, Second Earl of Dartmouth, Secretary for the Colonies, who relayed the British government's desire for Gage to take action. He was rebuked for allowing local militia to train at Faneuil Hall and his request for an additional 20,000 troops was denied. His majesty's government believed no large force was necessary as colonial protests and violence were the "work of a rude rabble who should be dealt with." At first Gage was in agreement with that assessment but, as he watched the growing size of the resistance, he came to believe the spirit of rebellion ran through the entire colony.<sup>19</sup> Lord Dartmouth and the king continued to insist if Gage moved swiftly with surprise, catching the rebels off guard, he could capture and arrest its leaders bringing the crisis to a close. Gage argued this would lead to war. Dartmouth said it was better to force the rebellion out in to the open rather than allowing it to fester hidden and growing.<sup>20</sup>

On 15 April 1775, Gage prepared to seize and confiscate arms and munitions belonging to citizens in Concord and Worchester. Dartmouth's instructions were to arrest "leaders of the Provincial Congress, most of whom were out of reach," and Gage was granted great latitude with respect to exigent circumstances. When Gage moved out, he made what military historians consider his first blunder. He detached "the grenadiers and light infantry companies" from their regiments. These men were not the elite soldiers, tall, strong, and agile. Light

infantry's value was its speed, mobility, and training tailored for swift strikes and rapid movements. Gage's forces were a patchwork of men and officers who had not trained together. Colonel Francis Smith was selected to lead Gage's men, the 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment. Major John Pitcairn was chosen to lead the Light Infantry but he was a marine not an infantry officer.<sup>21</sup> These preparations could not be kept secret, especially troop movements. Word quickly spread. Joseph Warren, Boston physician, author of the Suffolk Resolves, and leader of the Committee of Correspondence, dispatched Paul Revere to Lexington to warn Samuel Adams and John Hancock on 16 April 1775 of British troop movements.<sup>22</sup>

The moment of truth had arrived. The British denied any intent to confiscate private arms, munitions, and powder of citizens. But these had always been prerequisites to subduing colonies of the empire. Parliament had been rebuffed in attempting to force ever restrictive economic and political regulations on Americans but was not about to give up. Historically, governments wielding significant control over a population, its own or colonized peoples, resists attempts by them to gain more freedom. Nothing had changed.

<sup>1</sup> Jeff Snyder, *Nation of Cowards* (Lonedell, Missouri, Accurate Press, A Division of Accuprint, Inc., 2001), 23.

<sup>2</sup> Several injuries and the evil machinations of ticks threaten to deprive me of this escape from civilization. Clothing excessive relative to the temperature is a function of TDAS (Typical Discomfort Aversion Syndrome) found in wealthy advanced societies grown soft. It afflicts "Snowflake" Millennials.

<sup>3</sup> All found on the White House's website...absent mention of them being leftists, of course.

<sup>4</sup> Joe Saunders, *The Western Journalist*, at <http://www.Westernjournalist.com>

<sup>5</sup> CNS News, By CNSNews.com Staff | November 2, 2016 | 4:58 PM EDT, at: <http://www.cnsnews.com/news/article/cnsnewscom-staff/>

<sup>6</sup> Robert Middlekauff, *The Glorious Cause, The American Revolution: 1763-1789* (New York, N.Y., Oxford University Press, 2005), 246.

<sup>7</sup> Edmund S. Morgan, *The Puritan Dilemma: The Story of John Winthrop* (Boston, Massachusetts, Little, Brown, and Company, 1958), 69-83. See Also: Clarence B. Carson, *A Basic History of the United States: The Colonial Experience, 1607-1774* (Wadley, Alabama, American Textbook Committee, 1987), 98-99.

<sup>8</sup> Middlekauff, 245-246.

<sup>9</sup> *IBID.* 246.

<sup>10</sup> *IBID.* 240-241.

<sup>11</sup> *IBID.* 254-255. Note, this is not intended to be a Protestant slight against Catholics. They played a significant role in the War of Independence and a profoundly vital role against Communism during the Cold War.

<sup>12</sup> *IBID.* 262.

<sup>13</sup> *IBID.* 263.

<sup>14</sup> *IBID.* 270-271.

<sup>15</sup> *IBID.* 271-272.

<sup>16</sup> Stephen P. Hallbrook, *The Founders' Second Amendment: Origins of the Right to Bear Arms* (Chicago, Illinois, Ivan R. Dee, Publisher, 2008), 19-20.

<sup>17</sup> *IBID.* 20.

<sup>18</sup> *IBID.* 20-21.

<sup>19</sup> Middlekauff, 272.

<sup>20</sup> *IBID.* 272.

<sup>21</sup> *IBID.* 273.

<sup>22</sup> *IBID.* 273.

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## Newsflash for unarmed Americans: We gun owners don't carry for you

by Jeff Knox

Like many Americans, I frequently carry a gun. I've done so for over 30 years without ever laying hand to it in need. Professor John Lott of the Crime Prevention Research Center reports that some 12.8 million people, over 5.2 percent of the adult U.S. population, are licensed to carry a concealed handgun. In addition to concealed carry license holders in all 50 states, seven states require no permit at all for concealed carry, and 40 states have few restrictions on carrying as long as the gun is visible. On top of that, as I have reported recently, there appears to be a growing trend among people who routinely carry a firearm to also routinely ignore signs that tell them they can't. It is a growing form of civil disobedience that puts no one at increased risk of death or injury. As the number of concealed carriers grows, violent crime continues to fall. This doesn't prove that more guns equals less crime, but it irrefutably proves that more guns do not equate to more crime.

Unless you live in one of the extremely restrictive states like New York, New Jersey, or Massachusetts, any time you are on the street or anywhere that does not have controlled access, with metal detectors and bag searches, etc., there is a fairly high probability that someone nearby is legally carrying a gun. But they are not carrying that gun to protect you.

A popular essay from Lt. Col. Dave Grossman, divided humans into three categories: "Sheep," "Wolves" and "Sheepdogs." I would suggest that Lt. Col. Grossman left out an important fourth category: "Porcupines."

My wife is neither "sheep" nor "sheepdog," and she certainly is no "wolf." She is a "porcupine"; harmless and docile if left alone, but ferocious and dangerous if threatened – even more so if her progeny are threatened. She would choose flight over fight every time, if flight is a viable option. But if flight is not an option, she has the tools, training and mindset to win the fight.

Our nation's convoluted laws on self-defense and liability also force all but the most dedicated "sheepdogs" into the role of "porcupine" as well, making "porcupines" the most prevalent variety of armed citizen. We won't passively stand by while the wolves have their way with us or our families, but neither can we take responsibility for protecting the "sheep" from the "wolves." Certainly, most people who carry would take action to help someone in need if there was an opportunity to do so and there was no obvious alternative – and while many of us would probably prefer to characterize ourselves as "sheepdogs" rather than "porcupines," the reality is that protecting you, your spouse and your children is your responsibility, not ours. You should also be aware that protection of you and your family is not the responsibility of the police, either. The courts have conclusively ruled that the police have a duty to protect only the public at large, not individuals.

Those of us who have a natural inclination toward being "sheepdogs" have some pretty significant disincentives to acting on those inclinations. Not only is it physically dangerous to intervene in a violent situation, it is a

legal minefield that in most cases must be navigated in a matter of seconds. While laws and jurisprudence protect police from prosecution and civil liability, and while some protections exist for individuals acting in defense of themselves and their families, there are few shields for someone acting on behalf of a stranger. Armed citizens who intervene in situations where they or their families are not in imminent danger place themselves at significant risk of prosecution and civil penalties. We also tend to be keenly aware of the fact that any error involving a firearm can be devastating and permanent.

Violent encounters usually happen quickly, and they can be very confusing. It's not always clear who the "good guy" is and who is the "bad guy." Anyone who has ever been through a quality personal defense course has been cautioned to avoid deploying a firearm or engaging an aggressor unless there is no other alternative. In any shooting situation, there are two key problems to deal with. Problem One is survival. Problem Two is dealing with the legal and emotional fallout from solving Problem One. Ending a life can be emotionally devastating, and the legal consequences can destroy bank accounts and quality of life as surely as being gravely wounded. For most of us, there are no legal repercussions for running away. In the real world, this means flight is better than fight. Our training, and often the law, dictates that if we're enjoying a movie when a homicidal lunatic starts shooting people on the other side of the theater, our first responsibility is to get out and away, especially if our family is with us. If we're in a college class and we hear gunfire from the next building or a classroom down the hall, we, just like our unarmed classmates or students, should evacuate or "shelter in place," not head toward the gunfire.

This approach is galling to many gun owners, especially those of us with a natural inclination toward being "sheepdogs." We would rather fight than run. We would rather put ourselves at risk than allow evil to go unchecked. But regardless of the level of training and skill a person has, the multiple layers of risk that are inherent in any shooting situation stack the deck against playing the hero unless there is no other alternative.

Both sides of the debate over bearing arms have a tendency to relegate armed citizens to the role of "sheepdog," but that is a role the law and prudence won't let us accept, though some of us will try despite the obstacles. For the most part, we are "porcupines." We are armed for defense of ourselves and our families, not for you and yours. In a worst-case scenario, one of us might be present and save your life in defending our own, but don't count on it. We don't carry for you.

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## Pre Filed Bills for 2017

### HOUSE BILLS

HB 41 - McCann Beatty, Gail - Specifies that if charges are filed against a law enforcement officer based on an officer involved shooting, the judge must appoint a special prosecutor

HB 46 - Lichtenegger, Donna - Imposes civil penalties for poaching certain animals

HB 57 - Haefner, Marsha - Adds to the list of hate crimes certain offenses committed against law enforcement officers and first responders when the offenses are committed because the person is a law enforcement officer or first responder

HB 86 - Schroer, Nick - Adds to the list of hate crimes certain offenses committed against law enforcement officers and first responders when the offenses are committed because the person is a law enforcement officer or first responder

HB 96 - Schroer, Nick - Allows persons authorized to carry firearms under chapter 571 to sue for certain injuries sustained on the property of business enterprises that voluntarily prohibit firearms

HB 152 - Corlew, Kevin - Establishes the Armed Offender Docket Pilot Project within the Jackson County Circuit Court to handle all matters regarding a person accused or convicted of first degree robbery or a firearm offense (BAD)

HB 185 - Franks, Bruce - Requires reporting of lost or stolen firearms (BAD)

HB 198 - Butler, Michael - Creates the Quality Policing Act that establishes reporting and conduct guidelines for law enforcement agencies

HB 216 - Quade, Crystal - Allows the Missouri Ethics Commission to prosecute criminal cases and initiate civil cases if the Attorney General declines criminal prosecution or civil enforcement

HB 228 - Dogan, Shamed - Establishes the Blue Alert System and the Blue Alert System Oversight Committee to assist in the identification and location of any person suspected of killing or seriously wounding a law enforcement officer

HB 232 - Dogan, Shamed - Requires law enforcement agencies to have a written policy regarding the investigation of officer-involved deaths

HB 241 - Beck, Doug - Modifies the crime of unlawful transfer of weapons to include transfer of a firearms to any person on the terrorist screening center's no fly list (BAD)

HB 273 - Schroer, Nick - Increases penalties for certain crimes against law enforcement officers and emergency responders

HB 278 - Houghton, Jay - Allows all honorably discharged veterans to fish and hunt without a permit, with certain exceptions

HB 295 - Justus, Jeffery - Designates the second Saturday of June each year as "Law Enforcement Appreciation Day" in the State of Missouri.

HB 300 - Moon, Mike - Provides that if a business enterprise posts to prohibit the possession of concealed firearms on the property, the posting entity assumes responsibility for the safety of a person permitted to carry a firearm if harmed on the property.

HB 302 - Hill, Justin - Establishes the offense of intentionally targeting a law enforcement officer and creates a Blue Alert System

HB 308 - Kelley, Mike - Allows for limited immunity for statements made while reporting use of force

*HJR 3 - McGaugh, Joe Don - Delineates procedures a court must follow when assessing a claim that the government has enforced a law that limits a person's constitutional rights*

*HJR 4 - McGaugh, Joe Don - Proposes a constitutional amendment to assert the right of Missourians to hunt and fish*

*HJR 8 - Moon, Mike - Proposes a constitutional amendment to prohibit the levying of a tax or fee on any constitutional right*

### SENATE BILLS

SB 89 - Chappelle-Nadal - Creates the crimes of failing to stop illegal firearm possession, negligent storage of a firearm, and failure to notify a school of firearm ownership (BAD)

SB 152 - Schupp - Creates the offense of unlawful transfer of weapons for a licensed firearms dealer to deliver a handgun to a purchaser without waiting at least 24 hours (BAD)

SB 157 - Dixon - Adds language to jury instructions regarding lesser included offenses

**SB 167** - Schaaf - Modifies provisions of law relating to the right of suffrage for former felons

SB 181 - Nasheed - Relating to a reporting requirement for lost or stolen firearms (BAD)

SB 204 - Sifton - Requires every individual who is 17 years or older and is arrested for a felony offense to provide a biological sample for DNA profiling

*SJR 6 - Emery - Delineates procedures a court must follow when assessing a claim that the government has enforced a law that limits a person's constitutional rights*

This list is current through December 20th. You can check each bill on the House and Senate Web sites. We will keep you posted on the status of these bills and any new ones introduced..

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## Obama Bans Many Senior Citizens & Others from Buying Guns

By Dave Jolly December 27, 2016

Does being able to manage your own finances have anything to do with your right to purchase, own or use a gun? According to the new regulations finalized by Obama's gun-hating administration it does.

Earlier this year, the Social Security Administration issued a proposal for new regulations that would result in their reporting millions of Americans to the FBI's background check system with the purpose of banning them from being able to purchase a firearm.

Under the new proposal, anyone receiving Social Security Disability or other benefits who need help with their finances will be deemed to have a mental disorder. Those people will then be reported to the FBI who will then place them on a list to ban them from passing any background check which would ban them from being able to purchase a gun.

The same thing is already being done by the Department of Veteran Affairs. Any veteran who bravely served our nation and ends up suffering for that service and needs help with his or her finances, is deemed to have some sort of mental illness. Once labeled as having a mental illness, the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, operated by the FBI, is notified by the VA which in most cases ends up placing the veteran on the list of people banned from purchasing a firearm.

Earlier this year, Sen. Chuck Grassley (R-IA) commented about the VA's banning of veterans from buying a gun and the proposal made then by the Social Security Administration, saying:

*"According to Grassley, 99 percent of the people the FBI prohibits from owning guns because they are considered "mentally defective" come from the VA."*

*"Now, the SSA is proposing to take similar precautions with people who receive disability insurance because they are unable to work due to mental health disorders."*

*"It appears that just like the VA, SSA's regulatory action will not require the government to first prove that the individual is a danger to self or others," Grassley wrote last July in a letter to Carolyn Colvin, acting commissioner of the Social Security Administration."*

*"Is the SSA using the VA's regulatory standard as a template for reporting names to the [FBI]?" he asked. "If not, in what ways is the SSA's regulatory scheme different from the VA's?"*

Public hearings were held by the Social Security Administration and they accepted public comments. They drew nearly 100,000 responses to the proposal, most of which were in opposition to the SSA's proposal. One of those opposition responses received by the SSA was filed by the NRA. They listed a number of questions concerning the legality of the proposal, but to no surprise, the Obama driven SSA ignored the legal questions raised by the NRA and thousands of others.

Under the new SSA rule that was announced as being finalized last week, anyone receiving SSA disability or other Social Security benefits deemed to be related to any mental health condition, will be reported to

the NICS who will most likely ban them from being able to purchase a firearm.

All one has to do to be deemed by the SSA or VA as having a mental condition is for that person to need help in handling their financial affairs. Technically, if someone is physically disabled to the point of not being able to manage their own finances, they could and probably will be classified as having a mental disorder and end up being banned from purchasing a firearm.

How many fully functional people do you know that are terrible at financial affairs and need help with them. That describes millions of hard working Americans who do not have any form of mental or physical disorder.

However, if anyone is receiving Social Security disability or other benefits do need help managing their finances, they will now be reported to the FBI and banned from being able to purchase a gun. Millions of senior citizens who need help with their finances will be banned from purchasing a gun.

Sadly, many of these people are perfectly capable of handling a gun and could need one for self-defense, will be banned from purchasing a gun. Therefore, thanks to Barack Obama, will be banned from being able to properly defend themselves and their home as guaranteed by the US Constitution and Second Amendment.

Just like the VA regulation, the newly finalized SSA regulation has nothing to do with a person's ability to own and handle a gun, but does have everything to do with Obama's drive to disarm American citizens and violate their Second Amendment rights.

EVERY POLITICIAN WHO WANTS TO BAN GUNS SHOULD ONLY BE ALLOWED TO ARM THEIR BODY GUARDS WITH THESE...



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"Democrats are losing on every front and looking for people to blame everywhere. They need to learn to lose with dignity."

—Vladimir Putin

"The superficial distinctions of Fascism, Bolshevism, Hitlerism, are the concern of journalists and publicists; the serious student sees in them only one root-idea of a complete conversion of social power into State power."

—Albert Jay Nock (1870-1945)



**We're having a raffle!**

**It's time for another fundraiser**

**This year we're raffling off an Extar EXP 5.56 Nato Pistol**

**We've limited the number of raffle tickets to only 500.** Second, unlike some previous raffles, we will not mail tickets to members to sell. Tickets will be available at all General meetings and at events where WMSA has a table. Ticket stubs will be sent to you by return mail. Third, in addition to building our treasury for the coming year, this year's raffle is aimed towards gaining more WMSA members.

**The tickets are \$10 each, 3 for \$25 or 7 for \$50 dollars.** Only 500 are being printed. If you buy one ticket, you have one chance in five hundred of winning. If you buy two tickets, your chances rise to two chances in five hundred. As an added incentive, bring in a new member at a General Membership Meeting and get a free raffle ticket. Any current member who brings in a new WMSA member gets a free raffle ticket for each new member added to our rolls.

Bring your prospective new member to a General membership meeting and when the new member completes the membership application and pays their dues, you are handed a ticket, no charge! The drawing for the pistol will be at the July 2017 Missouri Valley Arms Collector Show at KCI Expo Center.

Go recruit new members, get a free ticket for every member and exhaust our limited number of tickets.

**Tickets can also be obtained via mail by sending a check to the WMSA, P.O. Box 11144, Kansas City, MO 64119.**

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# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## WESTERN MISSOURI SHOOTERS ALLIANCE

The Alliance is a regionally-based, grass-roots organization that seeks to;

- 1) Counter the designs of malicious legislators.
- 2) Confront the media's twisted portrayals of gun rights issues.
- 3) Politicize and activate gun owners in defense of their rights.
- 4) Acquaint the public with the true nature of the Second Amendment.
- 5) Network with other pro-gun groups to coordinate local, state and national strategies.
- 6) Train people in basic firearm safety and handgun defense.
- 7) Sponsor and support pro-gun legislation.
- 8) Make politicians aware that gun owners are awakening from their accustomed apathy and  
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NRA member? \_\_\_\_ Registered Voter? \_\_\_\_

Check membership type:

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\_\_\_\_ Senior  
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\_\_\_\_ Associate  
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ads per year.)

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ads per year.)

<p>Mail to:  <b>Western Missouri Shooters Alliance</b>  <b>P.O. Box 11144</b>  <b>Kansas City, MO 64119</b></p> <p>Hotline (877) 333-WMSA  <a href="http://www.wmsa.net">www.wmsa.net</a>          County: _____</p>
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*Dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to keep and bear arms as guaranteed by the Second Amendment*



**Western Missouri Shooters Alliance**  
**P O Box 11144**  
**Kansas City, MO 64119**

*...dedicated to the restoration of the inalienable right to  
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**\*REMINDER\*** *Next General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 24, 2017 at 7:00 PM  
 Meeting located at Bass Pro Conservation Room, Independence, MO*

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Rick Brattin—R—Dist 55  
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Jack Bondon - R - Dist 56  
 201 West Capitol Ave Rm. 201F  
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Wanda Brown - R - Dist 57  
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 703-321-8585

Jews for the Preservation of Firearms Ownership  
[www.JPFO.org](http://www.JPFO.org)  
 262-673-9745

The National Rifle Association  
[www.nra.org](http://www.nra.org)  
 800-672-3888

The Second Amendment Foundation  
[www.saf.org](http://www.saf.org)  
 425-454-7012

Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance  
<http://www.gclastl.org/>  
 866 385-GUNS (4867)

Missouri Sport Shooting Association  
[www.missourisportshooting.org/](http://www.missourisportshooting.org/)

Western Missouri Shooters Alliance  
[www.wmsa.net](http://www.wmsa.net)

Missouri Carry  
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Arming Women Against Rape and Endangerment  
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 877-672-9273

Women Against Gun Control  
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