

PRO-GUNNERS WIN IN SENATE VOTES

Pro-gun forces on Capitol Hill won major victories last month during a series of votes in the U. S. Senate on gun rights issues.

Observers attributed the victories in part to the commitment of pro-gun rights activists who have been dedicated to preserving the right to keep and bear arms in the face of continued media attacks on Americans' gun rights.

In Bellevue, Washington, for instance, Alan M. Gottlieb, CCRKBA Chairman, said he thought the mid-July Senate victories were due in large measure to the "continuing pro-gun letter-writing and phone-calling of CCRKBA Members and Supporters. They have been unstinting in their efforts to keep their Senators informed with regard to the facts on the right to keep and bear arms and the various legislative issues surrounding the Second Amendment. These victories are a tribute to them."

Gottlieb also cautioned that "these victories, sweet as they are, do not mean that our battles are over. We still have a lot of bitter fights ahead of us in the struggle to preserve the right to keep and bear arms for ourselves and for future generations. We're hopeful and confident, though, that CCRKBA Members and Supporters will enable us successfully to continue the fight."

The votes on gun rights came as the Senate considered appropriations for the Departments of Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999. Gun rights issues came to the floor in the form of amendments offered by individual Senators.

First out of the box on July 21 was Sen. Barbara Boxer of California with a proposal to require that all handguns sold in the United States include safety locks. It was shot down by a vote of 61 to 39.

Sen. Boxer, who is up for reelection this year, said she was offering the amendment "to keep our children safe.

"The Centers for Disease Control reports that 1.2 million children have access to guns in the home, and a survey sponsored by the National Institutes of Justice found that 34 percent of handgun owners store their guns unlocked and unloaded. As long as this continues to be the case, our children are not safe."

Countering Sen. Boxer was Sen. Larry Craig of Idaho, who characterized her proposal as "one of those feel good amendments." He said that "manufacturers and anyone else knowledgeable in the use of a firearm will say not a trigger lock on a loaded gun - no, no, not at all - because you risk even a greater chance of accidental death. Trigger locks are recommended and should be used on unloaded guns. But that is the reality. So if we mandate it by federal law, we risk even greater numbers of accidents. You even risk a great number of people violating laws because of the inability to accommodate or live up to this."

Sen. Craig also pointed out that "there were 44,583 deaths amongst children in 1995; .04 percent firearms. All the rest were the kinds of things that we can do very little about. We should try where we can. We can change the deployment impact of airbags. We probably cannot outlaw backyard swimming pools. We probably cannot mandate better caretakership at the community swimming pool. And somehow, we just can't teach moms and dads about child safety seats and not putting young children in the front seats of cars."

Sen. Bob Smith of New Hampshire offered an amendment to require the FBI to destroy immediately records of the background checks on prospective purchasers

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**STRAIGHT TALK
ABOUT WHAT YOU
CAN DO TO
PRESERVE YOUR
RIGHT TO KEEP AND
BEAR ARMS**

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BEAR ARMS**

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SENATE VICTORY!

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of firearms if such purchasers are not precluded from purchasing such firearms. The FBI begins the checks after the five day handgun purchase waiting period in the Brady Law sunsets on November 30 in favor of the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

The Smith amendment, which also would forbid the FBI from charging a fee when it begins using computers to check quickly firearms' purchasers criminal records, was approved by voice vote after a virtually identical version was approved by a roll call vote of 69 to 31.

Sen. Smith said he had heard a lot of complaints from law-abiding gun owners who regard the proposal by the FBI to maintain records of background checks for 18 months "as an ominous step toward national gun registration, which I believe is probably the ultimate goal here. Justifiably, in my view, they see this plan as a threat to their Second Amendment right under the Constitution of the United States. I agree with them. I feel deeply about this..

"My legislation will put a stop to the FBI's plan to keep records of law-abiding citizens who buy guns. My amendment will require the immediate destruction of all information submitted by or on behalf of any person who has been determined not to be prohibited from owning a firearm...

"My amendment would prevent the use of funds by the Department of Justice for the 'implementation of any tax or fee' in connection with the implementation of this new National Instant Criminal

Background Check System.

"Under the Second Amendment, law-abiding American citizens have the right to own a firearm. And if the Congress, in its wisdom, decides that we are going to have this background and that a person is not disqualified, he or she should not have to pay for it. It is their constitutional right to have a weapon if they are honest, law-abiding citizens, and they should not have to pay a fee because somebody said they needed to check to find out if they were honest people or not."

When Sen. Richard J. Durbin of Illinois proposed making it a federal offense if adults insecurely store a gun that is taken by a child and used in a crime, his amendment, which would have charged such gun owners with a misdemeanor carrying a maximum penalty of a year in prison and a \$10,000 fine, was shot down by a vote of 69 to 31.

Previously, the Senate approved by voice vote an amendment proposed by Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon which would encourage states to pass legislation mandating detention for any student found in possession of a firearm on school premises in violation of federal or state law.

In criticizing the Durbin amendment, Sen. Craig said it would put innocent people at risk of prosecution should youngsters find a way to get their hands on guns that are locked away properly. What Durbin is saying, said Craig, "is that if you have a gun in your house...and a child invites another child in and that child finds a gun and misuses it, then, of

course, the owner of the gun is liable."

In reviewing the series of Senate votes and comparing it with Senate action in previous years, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that "on balance, it appears the Second Amendment right of individual law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms is more secure from legislative encroachment under a Republican-controlled Senate than a Democratic-controlled chamber. This is not to say that all Republicans are pro-gun and all Democrats are anti-gun, but it is to say that our freedoms and liberties seem more secure when the majority party is Republican rather than Democrat."



POINT BLANK

"Straight talk about what you can do to preserve your right to keep and bear arms."

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CCRKBA COSPONSORS MARYLAND LEADERSHIP TRAINING SEMINAR

Three members of the Maryland House of Delegates participated in a recent Maryland Leadership Training Seminar cosponsored by CCRKBA and the Second Amendment Foundation.

John Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, organized the event.

Calling the meeting "a gathering of some of the Free State's finest citizens," Snyder said "I believe this marks a new beginning for Maryland. We'll coordinate efforts to assert forcefully the

interdependence of personal protection and public safety. We'll work to promote public policies underscoring respect for the right to self-defense, for the right to protect life and property from criminal activity, for the individual right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms, as necessary elements in the construction of a safe society."

Delegates Mike Burns of Annapolis, Barrie Ciliberti of Gaithersburg and

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GOTTLIEB ENDORSES SCHOOL FIREARMS DETENTION MEASURE

Cited in USA TODAY as saying an anti-gun so-called "child safety" bill introduced by Rep. Carolyn McCarthy of New York "won't take one criminal off the street," CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb announced support for a Senate measure encouraging states to pass legislation mandating detention for any student found in possession of a firearm on school premises in violation of federal or state law.

The McCarthy bill, H. R. 4073, the proposed "Children's Gun Violence Prevention Act of 1998," would require firearms manufacturers to develop "safety features" such as so-called "smart guns," or firearms which supposedly could be fired only by the guns' owners or by designated shooters; mandate the purchase of safety locks with every firearms transfer; impose criminal penalties on adults whose supposed carelessness in storing and locking up their firearms results in juveniles using the guns; fund a program in the nation's schools to increase awareness of "gun violence;" and provide money for the anti-gun Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to collect firearms data.

The Senate bill, S. 2169, by Sens. Gordon Smith and Ron Wyden of Oregon, would require a period of observation of not more than 72 hours to allow for psychological evaluation and a judicial determination regarding an affected student's potential danger to himself or others. States which pass such legislation would receive a 25 percent increase in federal funding under the Juvenile

Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974.

The S. 2169 "approach is one we strongly support," said Chairman Gottlieb. "That's the way to do it. You can't federalize everything. Incidents such as the Springfield, Oregon shooting are rarely as spontaneous as they appear. Kip Kinkel had been sending signals for a long time: to his peers, to his teachers, to his parents, signals that something was going dreadfully wrong in his life. No one read the signals correctly. S. 2169 will ensure that the appropriate professionals are given the opportunity to intervene before a tragedy occurs."

Gottlieb said that "the knee jerk reaction to impose more gun controls in the wake of these school shooting incidents fails to address the underlying problem. While giving the appearance of doing something, gun control is a band-aid approach to a potentially serious hemorrhage. S. 2169 goes right to the source of the problem and focuses on preventive intervention at the right point and the right time."

Commenting that "it is encouraging to see an effective, bi-partisan approach to the real problem, one that avoids the divisive and polarizing issue of gun control," Joe Waldron, CCRKBA Executive Director, said "the more we can channel our energy into cooperative efforts such as this, the better it is for gun owners and non-gun owners alike."

Sen. Wyden said "bringing a gun to school is a warning sign that must be taken seriously. And while so-called

'zero tolerance policies' that mandate a student be expelled for bringing a gun to school may adequately punish the behavior, they are clearly not enough. We must offer services to this student - see what is going on in that student's head and help them through the rough spots. We must find a balance between preventing these crimes from occurring and punishing them once they do."

He also said the Smith-Wyden bill "will help communities better identify and service students at risk of endangering themselves or others with a firearm. The bill gives everyone involved - teachers, public school administrators, law enforcement, police officers and juvenile justice professionals - the tools they need to get a troubled student the help he or she needs. Under the state laws the bill would promote, when a student brings a gun to school, the public school must report this behavior to law enforcement and juvenile authorities immediately. Police must then come to the school and determine if there is probable cause to take action. If there is cause to take action, the police must bring the student into the station for two purposes: first, the student must have a mental health professional give him or her a psychological evaluation, and second, the student must immediately be scheduled for a judicial hearing. The state has up to 72 hours to complete these intervention measures. States passing a law following these parameters will receive a significant bonus: they will receive 25 percent more money to spend on juvenile prevention

CCRKBA BATTLING CLINTON MOVES TO EXPAND BRADY ACT

With the five-day handgun purchase waiting period set to sunset this November 30 in favor of a national instant firearms purchase criminal records check (NICS), CCRKBA is battling Clinton-Gore Administration attempts to extend the waiting period and to use the records check system as a pretext for initiating both national firearms registration and additional federal gun taxation.

As the law stands now, the waiting period provision is supposed to expire on November 30.

The Clinton-Gore Administration, though, so infatuated with the waiting period that it hates to see it vanish, is indicating it favors legislation which would provide for its extension. Senior White House policy advisor Rahm Emanuel said as much June 14 on NBC's "Meet the Press."

In response, CCRKBA points out the latest scholarly research shows not only that waiting periods fail to reduce violent crime but actually foreshadow increased rates of violent crime. As Professor John R. Lott, Jr., concludes in his book, MORE GUNS LESS CRIME, published earlier this year, the Brady Act actually is responsible for a "significant increase in rapes and aggravated assaults."

The kind of legislation which does lead to reductions in rates of violent crime is legislation letting law-abiding citizens carry concealed handguns, as Lott demonstrates in his University of Chicago Press study.

Alan M. Gottlieb, CCRKBA Chairman, noted that Brady Law proponents, including the U. S. Justice Department, have been overstating the number of purchases stopped by the 1993 act, according to the INDIANAPOLIS STAR-NEWS.

"Gun owners and police officers attacked the Brady proposal from the beginning as costly and ineffective," stated Gottlieb. "Seeing a mainstream paper like the INDIANAPOLIS STAR-NEWS refute government-sanctioned Brady statistics provides hope for more objective reporting on the emotional issue of gun control."

The STAR-NEWS found that while a recent U.S. Justice Department study

indicated that around 69,000 handgun purchases were stopped last year under the Brady Act, the numbers are overblown. For example, while the Justice Department claimed that 1,085 handgun sales were blocked in Indiana alone, the paper found that, in reality, only 82 purchases were stopped out of 96,530 (0.085 percent).

In other states, paperwork errors and duplications boosted the numbers over actual levels. In Arizona, 2,277 rejections were reported, but only 1,691 people were actually restricted from purchasing a handgun after closer examination.

The newspaper's revelations correspond with earlier studies. One government study found that less than two percent of all handgun buyers were initially rejected in the first year. Furthermore, around half of the people originally denied were later approved to purchase a handgun, according to the Congressional General Accounting Office. Therefore, many people were wrongfully denied because of poor record keeping, name mix-ups and misapplication of disqualifying offenses. In addition, criminals illegally trying to acquire handguns are not prosecuted under Brady. In the first year of the Brady Act, only 551 arrests and only four prosecutions were reported by the Justice Department.

"More media outlets need to have the courage to report the truth about the ineffectiveness of the Brady Act waiting period and the lack of prosecutions of criminals trying illegally to purchase handguns," stated Gottlieb. "Now is a very critical time since the waiting period is about to expire and the gun grabbers are using phony statistics to try to ram a permanent waiting period through Congress."

MORE EFFECTIVE APPROACH

Another way that Brady Act supporters inflate figures is to include instant check states and other background check system states as "Brady" states. For these reasons and others, many gun rights supporters are looking forward to removing the waiting period and replacing it with a more effective approach, a National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS).

"Gun owners have supported point-of-purchase checks for years," said Gottlieb. "Instant checks are cheaper, more resource efficient and don't inconvenience law-abiding gun owners. The instant check system is already on-line in 17 states and is intended to replace the waiting period for Brady later this year."

The proposed administrative implementation rules would provide for a user fee or gun tax ranging anywhere from at least \$13.00 to \$15.00 per purchase, and retention of personalized information and records on approved gun owners for up to 18 months, in effect de facto gun registration.

Snyder offered a statement to the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime in connection with its June 11 hearing in which he supported a bill, H. R. 3949, by Rep. Bob Barr of Georgia, to prohibit the government from making these rules.

Pointing out that the law as it now stands does not authorize these government-proposed rules and even prohibits them, Snyder stated that "we should not need a law to tell the government it cannot do what it cannot do. However, the government itself has become so illegitimate in the exercise of its authority that it is necessary for Congress to take this step and rein it in."

Snyder subsequently announced CCRKBA support for S. 2175, the proposed Firearms Owner Privacy Act of 1998, by Sen. Larry Craig of Idaho, which has been referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

S. 2175 would require that information generated by the NICS system on approved, lawful firearms purchases be destroyed within 24 hours. An individual who knowingly retained or transferred that information after that time would face criminal penalties of up to \$250,000 or up to 10 years' imprisonment, or both.

With regard to transactions disapproved because a would-be purchaser is prohibited by federal or state law from receiving a firearm, S. 2175 would permit the government to retain the records for five years. If a criminal prosecution has

COLUMNIST SOWELL ATTACKS ANTI-GUN SAFETY SERENADE

Nationally syndicated columnist Thomas Sowell last month pointed to the anti-gun safety serenade sung by the gun grabbers over the wedge issue of child safety.

"Political reactions to this year's rash of schoolhouse shootings have been classic liberalism," wrote Sowell in THE WASHINGTON TIMES and other publications. "The government should crack down on gun owners who haven't shot anybody. Meanwhile, liberals have very little interest in punishing the young murderers, and instead are ready to listen to psychobabble excuses.

"The latest ploy in the anti-gun crusade is shifting from emphasis on gun control to emphasis on gun safety."

"Child-locks for guns are the latest safety craze.

"But schoolhouse shootings are not being done by infants and toddlers. They are being done by people old enough

to figure out any lock that an adult can figure out. Child-locks provide no protection whatever against the premeditated murder of school children and their teachers.

"If you are serious about stopping smaller children from firing guns they may find around the house, there is an incredibly simple way to prevent that: Don't leave the guns loaded. Moreover, most guns already have safety devices...

"More children die each year from bicycle accidents than from gun accidents, but where is there any such orchestrated hysteria about a need to ban bicycles?

"There is a dangerous down side to locking guns - and especially adding a child-lock to the existing safety devices. Many people keep guns in their homes to protect themselves and their families. Studies show these guns have in fact saved great numbers of people from

being victims of intruders in their homes.

"Multiple safety devices slow down the very people who need to be able to fire in self-defense. Criminals with guns will undoubtedly have them unlocked and unloaded. Zealots for gun control laws never seem to understand that criminals do not obey laws. Gun control means unilateral disarmament of law-abiding citizens.

"These law-abiding citizens have used guns to defend themselves at least 760,000 times in a single year...

"Since the mid-1980s, there has been a 50 percent increase in gun ownership. If guns are the problem, then we should have seen a rise in murders. Instead, there has been a decline in murder and other violent crimes - especially in places where gun ownership has gone up...

"Gun ownership deters crime. But what will deter liberals? Certainly not the facts. They have too much invested

MARYLAND CONFAB *continued from page 2*

Louise Snodgrass of Middletown all addressed the Maryland civil rights activists who gathered June 20 in Damascus at the Wildlife Achievement Chapter of the Izzak Walton League of America.

General Assembly candidates Augustus Alzona of Bethesda, John Clark of Mt. Airy and John Pepper of Bladensburg, former Chairman of the United Sportsmen's Political Action Committee, also addressed the group.

Speakers included Computer Sciences Professor Jim Purtilo of the University of Maryland; Sandy Abrams, Vice President of the Maryland Licensed Firearms Dealers Association; Lee Osnansky, Past President of the Maryland Rifle and Pistol Association; Kenneth V. F. Blanchard, Chairman of African American Arms and Instruction; and Stuart Broad and Beth Catherty of Montgomery Citizens for a Safer Maryland.

John Pepper, for many years a noted Free State pro-gun rights activist, presented a keynote address on the importance of working together.

Delegate Burns gave a detailed address on dos and don'ts for citizens lobbying the General Assembly. He said it is most

important for citizens, for voters, to get to know as well as they can their Delegates and Senators, to present a proper public image, to observe behavioral rectitude, to understand and to articulate the specifics of particular legislative issues.

Delegate Snodgrass told the group the issue of child safety and how that interrelates with the rights of firearms owners is most likely to be a major issue in the next session of the General Assembly.

Delegate Ciliberti said he always has tried to represent as best he can the rights of gun owners in the General Assembly and that he intends to continue to do so.

Alzona and Clark said that, if they are elected to the House of Delegates this fall, support for the rights of law-abiding firearms owners would be among their top legislative priorities.

Snyder outlined firearms issues pending in the U. S. Congress and Abrams commented on issues likely to be brought up in the next session of the Maryland General Assembly.

Abrams also gave a talk on the neces-

sity for law-abiding firearms purchasers, or consumers, to understand the business problems facing firearms dealers and firearms manufacturers.

Purtilo emphasized the absolute necessity of working throughout the summer and fall to elect pro-gun rights candidates to the General Assembly in November. The Editor of the highly-respected TRIP-WIRE, a Maryland gun rights advocacy newsletter, Purtilo noted that "we need our issues out in the mainstream, and we need to recruit more voters to back up our efforts."

Blanchard gave a thoughtful and humorous speech on the necessity of manifesting positive attitudes on the right to keep and bear arms while debating or discussing it.

Osnanski talked about the importance of building coalitions, of cooperating with other groups, in order to achieve common political and legislative objectives.

Broad and Catherty outlined a number of legal and court issues facing Marylanders at state, federal and local levels of jurisdiction.

John A. Josselyn, Legislative Vice President of the Associated Gun Clubs of Baltimore, explained the Clubs' rating of

VIRGINIA PATHOLOGIST THE CCRKBA GUN RIGHTS AWARDEE

Val W. Finnell, M.D. of Springfield, Virginia is the designated recipient of the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award for August.

In nominating Finnell for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that "with gun grabbers these days trying to attack the right of individual law-abiding citizens as some kind of a public health menace, it's important that qualified physicians come forward with the truth to dispel this latest attempt at vicious anti-gun myth-making. Val has done this and is doing this in a big time way. He already has rendered the gun rights movement tremendous service and he intends to continue to do so in the future. He is most deserving of this Award."

As a Virginia activist with Doctors for Integrity in Policy Research, Inc. (DIPR) a national organization dedicated to exposing the lies of the public health propaganda machine on guns and violence, Val paid close attention to what he calls "the biased and incompetent research on guns funded by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

He decided "to go public with this information through numerous letters to the editor and national television interviews." He also was "able to expose the lies of the CDC before the American Medical Student Association's summer intern program in Washington, D. C."

When THE WASHINGTON POST MAGAZINE in its March 29, 1998 issue published an anti-gun attack piece, "Trigger Points," by Bob Thompson, purporting to show the public health benefits of restrictive firearms control policies, Val went into action, wrote a letter, and had it published, in the magazine's May 10 issue.

Val called the Thompson piece "a thinly veiled attempt to discredit those who would challenge the politicized and incompetent 'research' of the public health, anti-self-defense gurus.

"Attempts to apply the medical model to a criminological issue are not only incorrect, but dishonest. Not only have these 'scientists' mischaracterized firearms, they have made a systematic attempt to selectively ignore the socio-

logical and criminological literature. Many of these scholarly articles refute the various methodologies and conclusions reached by the medical gun prohibitionists. We find, however, no mention of these scholarly works in many of the public health advocates' published 'research.'

"Doctors across America should be ashamed of the peer review process that allowed these biased articles to be printed in some of the best medical journals."

Val was born April 11, 1968 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, received his BA in Philosophy in 1990 from Washington and Jefferson College in Washington, Pennsylvania, and his MD in 1994 from Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey, Pennsylvania. He currently is a pathology resident in his last year of training.

Val is a United States Army physician. He and his wife, Tracy, who holds a BS in Elementary Education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, were married in 1989 and now have two children, Zachary, 7, and Lucas, 4. The family attends Harvester Presbyterian Church in America in Springfield where Val is personally involved in biblical counseling and in the church's evangelism ministry.

Although stationed initially in Hawaii, Val now works out of the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D. C.

He tells POINT BLANK he "first became involved in Second Amendment issues while living in Hawaii. I can remember taking my gun to the police station for mandatory registration and fingerprinting by the Honolulu Police Department. My first thoughts were, 'Is this America?'

"I soon found myself in the Northern Virginia area. I was one of the many people who stood in line the first day concealed carry permits were made available to Fairfax County residents. Standing in front of the Public Safety Building, I met a man handing out flyers from the Northern Virginia Citizens Defense League (NVDL). The flyer said that Fairfax County was breaking the law by charging excessive fees and conducting interrogations of CCW applicants. Having come recently from

Hawaii, I was determined not to see the same sort of tyranny develop in another state. I joined NVDL and got involved.

"During this first year in Virginia, I also got involved with DIPR...The majority of my activities, however, have revolved around NVDL. My first major activity with NVDL was to serve as the organization's webmaster. It was through countless hours of maintaining the web site that I was able to educate myself on Virginia Second Amendment issues. I read everything I could about the history of the Constitution and the meaning of the Bill of Rights and became progressively involved in the legislative process in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

"Since I first joined in 1995, NVDL grew from just a few dozen members to a statewide organization with nearly 400 members and supporters. NVDL could no longer justify its regional focus and in May of this year incorporated as the Virginia Citizens Defense League (VCDL). Currently, I am serving as VCDL's first President. We look forward to an exciting start as Virginia's most aggressive pro-firearms and liberty organization."

Over the last three years, Val has maintained a statewide e-mail alert list known as VA-ALERT; been active in Virginia legislative sessions in Richmond, the state capital; helped engineer in 1996 a change in Fairfax County's "hunting laws" to exempt persons lawfully carrying firearms for personal safety from county hunting restrictions; organized grassroots support last year for defeating mandatory FBI fingerprinting of CCW applicants in Fairfax and Prince William Counties; organized grassroots support last year for a successful lawsuit against an illegal Fairfax County gun ban regulation; and attempted, along with others in VCDL, to repeal the "restaurant ban" from Virginia's CCW law in the 1997 and 1998 legislative sessions.

Val's current projects include a pending lawsuit of the Alexandria City facility gun ban as well as a challenge to Arlington County Police Chief Edward A. Flynn's "Home Site Inspection" policy for Class III Weapons applicants.

Finnell said that if the home inspection policy is not rescinded, VCDL will take



QUICK SHOTS

magazine, Wenner "has mobilized a small army of media heavyweights," according to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Wenner "has loaded Cease Fire's advisory board with the likes of Walter Cronkite, Barry Diller, Michael Eisner, Paul Newman and Michael Douglas, who in turn proceeded to 'round up the media,' as Mr. Wenner puts it," according to the JOURNAL.

"Mr. Douglas, who narrates the ads, called officials at CBS. Time Warner Chief Executive Gerald Levin has suggested that all of the company's cable systems run the ads. Tom Freston, chief executive of Viacom's MTV unit, not only agreed to carry the ads on MTV networks, but helped obtain commitments from cable networks A&E and Lifetime. HSN Chairman Barry Diller called executives at News Corp.'s Fox and Tele-Communications Inc. And Ellen Levine, the editor of GOOD HOUSEKEEPING, agreed to carry ads in her magazine and helped to win pages from several other Hearst periodicals.

"Rather than a political message pushing legislation, 'we're trying to change perceptions,' Mr. Wenner says. 'The reason most men buy handguns is because they think they can protect their family. But it doesn't work. Handguns are much more likely to bring harm.'"

In Washington, D. C., the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime approved H. R. 218, by Rep. Randy Cunningham of California, which would allow sworn law enforcement officers the right to carry a concealed firearm while off duty in any state in the nation. It also approved an amendment to H.R. 218 offered by the Subcommittee Chairman, Rep. Bill McCollum of Florida, which would allow individuals who have been issued state carry permits to carry concealed in other states which have right to carry laws.

The McCollum amendment does not go as far as H. R. 339, by Rep. Cliff

Maryland Governor Parris Glendening signed an executive order last month directing state troopers to trace and run ballistics on every gun seized by police in connection with a crime, making Maryland the first state to attempt such a comprehensive program to attack illegal firearms trafficking, according to state and federal officials.

State officials hope that by tracking every seized gun to a gun dealer and its original purchaser they will be able to develop a complete picture of the state's black market in firearms. Officials say this would allow police to identify scofflaw dealers and trafficking rings which may be funneling thousands of guns onto the streets, as well as individual "straw purchasers."

"This is a completely different tack for Parris (Glendening) to take," said Bob McMurray, Legislative Vice President of the Maryland Rifle and Pistol Association. "Previously, he's concentrated on bashing law-abiding gun owners, and we've testified that he ought to be enforcing existing laws against criminals. If they want to check ballistics and trace every crime gun seized, we have no problem with that."

Told of Glendening's plan, Ellen R. Sauerbrey, Glendening's probable pro-gun gubernatorial opponent this fall, asked why he hadn't done it sooner. "It seems to be a curious coincidence that he's discovered the importance of this with an election a couple of months away," she said.

In Charlotte, North Carolina, the 210th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), by a vote of 393 to 120 on June 18, resolved to call upon all Presbyterians "to intentionally work toward removing all handguns from our homes and our communities."

In a national anti-gun media blitz on television networks, local stations, magazines and billboards sponsored by Cease Fire, the pet project of Jann Wenner, Publisher of ROLLING STONE

Stearns of Florida, which would allow holders of a permit to carry concealed issued by any state to carry concealed in any state. However, it would improve greatly upon the current situation.

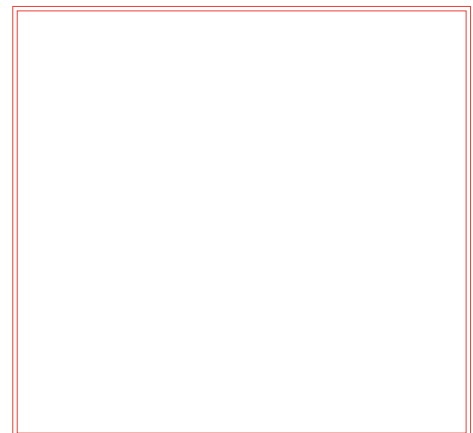
H.R. 218 first must be approved by the whole House Judiciary Committee, under the chairmanship of Rep. Henry Hyde of Illinois, and the House Rules Committee, under the chairmanship of Rep. Jerry Solomon of New York, before going to the full House floor for a vote.



"Gun 'safety' is advanced in one deft promotional shot by a safe company," reports THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

"Sheriff William Polhemus of Ocean County, New Jersey, wanted some sort of safety device so his officers could lock up their guns at home, keeping the weapons out of the hands of children and others. So he called Sentry Group, Inc. a safe manufacturer in Rochester, New York.

"The timing was good. Sentry is introducing a small safe for home use and, as a kickoff gesture, donated 80 of the bolt-down safes to the Ocean County force - one for each officer. It adds it will sell the safes at a substantial discount to other police. 'These guns will be locked down and safe,' says the sheriff, adding: 'It just felt perfect.'"



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**A Man With A Gun
 Has More Fun**

**An Armed Society
 is a Polite Society**

**Crime Control
 Not Gun Control**

**Criminals Prefer
 Unarmed Victims**

**Fight Crime
 Shoot Back**

**Gun Control Is A
 Steady Hand**

**I am A Gun Owner
 And I Vote**

**If Guns Are Outlawed
 only Outlaws Will Have Guns**

**Register Criminal
 Not Firearms**

**Soft Judges Make
 Hardened Criminals**

**The Second Amendment
 Ain't About Duck Hunting**

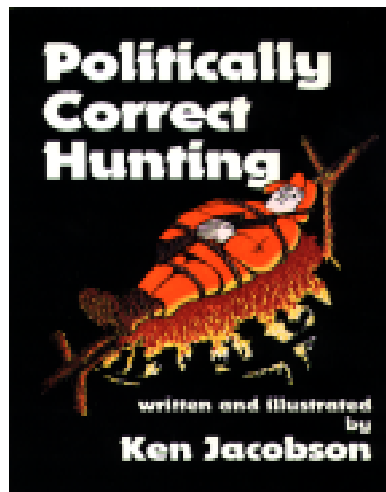
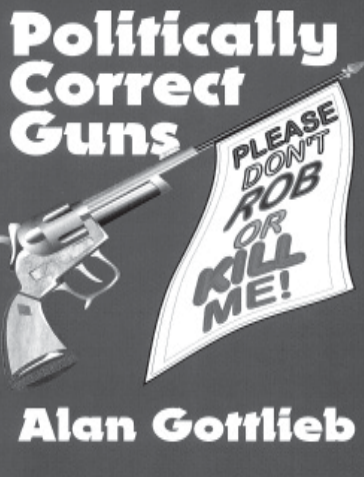
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 People Kill People**

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