

POINT BLANK

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



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(a non-profit corporation)

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CCRKBA HAILS ELECTION RESULTS

CCRKBA last month congratulated gun owners who turned out in record numbers across the country "for providing the critical votes necessary to strengthen the pro-gun majority on Capitol Hill, and keep a pro-gun President in the White House."

However, said CCRKBA Chairman Alan M. Gottlieb, "the real work begins now. This is the first real opportunity that gun owners have had in recent memory to go on the offensive. We need to begin pushing immediately for an expansion of the armed pilots program, and perhaps equally important to homeland security, we need to pass national concealed carry legislation for private citizens."

CCRKBA was first to call for the arming of commercial airline pilots. It took a leadership role in pushing legislation on Capitol Hill to create a training program for pilots, and has been among the loudest critics of bureaucrats within the Department of Homeland Security for deliberately road blocking that important program.

"George Bush and the Republican majority in Congress are in office today largely because of the hard work, devotion and activism of America's firearm owners," Gottlieb stated. "It is time for Congress and the White House to fix the armed pilots program, and to provide the same right of national concealed carry to law-abiding American citizens that they provided this year to off-duty and retired police officers. No matter what an American citizen does for a living, he or she does not leave his or her right of self-defense at the border of his or her home state."

The November 2 "monumental victory was not merely a victory for Republicans," Gottlieb observed. "It was a victory for the Second Amendment, and for all of those citizens who volunteered in campaigns, who put up signs, sent money, rang doorbells, made telephone calls and worked so hard to protect their individual right to keep and bear arms."

He said, "the work that lies ahead will be aimed at strengthening our rights, and thus making America stronger. We now have a clear chance to start, as Gen. Douglas MacArthur called it, 'the long road back' toward regaining lost firearm freedoms, and expanding the ability of all Americans to be safe, in the air, on our streets, and in our homes."

The gun grabbers, however, are not giving up. In a post-election statement, Michael Barnes, President of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence united with the Million Mom March, called upon President Bush "to keep his campaign promises by leading the fight to reinstate the assault weapons ban and close the gun show loophole..Now is the time for President Bush to show the leadership necessary to pass these much-needed public safety measures."

DEMOCRATS, MEDIA JUST DO NOT GET IT

By Alan M. Gottlieb, Chairman, CCRKBA, and Joe Waldron, Executive Director, CCRKBA

Democrats didn't get it and the media still doesn't. A record turnout of gun owners has once again helped shape the political landscape, this time around not only retaining control of the White House, but also reinforcing the strength of the Republican majority in both houses of Congress.

Firearm owners, including millions of hunters, were far quicker to see through the façade John Kerry and his strategists tried to build, attempting to portray the Massachusetts liberal as pro-gun and pro-hunting when his 20-year voting record belied that image. When a politician has a track record of supporting every kind of restrictive gun control scheme that lands on his desk it is impossible to reinvent that person as a hunter and shooter. It's not just that "that dog don't hunt," it's more like the dog has no legs and is blind to boot.

Whatever Sen. Kerry was thinking when he showed up at a canned pheasant hunt in Iowa, a shooting range in Wisconsin and more recently on a photo-op goose shoot in Ohio, if he actually believed these publicity stunts would gain him acceptance from a voting bloc he has consistently acted against, it would indicate he was not capable of being President of the United States. Nobody that stupid should be in the Oval Office.

Democrats are now faced, once again, with the task of reassessment. On this last go-round, they believed that portraying themselves as pro-gun and pro-hunting would apparently make it so "to the dumb bumpkins." The plain truth is that Democrats, as a party, and as individuals, do not understand that one

does not earn extra points in the gun and hunting community by claiming to be something. One has to honestly live those beliefs.

Adopting a strategy of telling people you "support the Second Amendment" really means nothing. At this year's Gun Rights Policy Conference – a late September gathering of gun rights leaders held in Arlington, Virginia – it was more than skepticism that led many of those present to observe that merely "supporting" the Second Amendment could mean anything, and most likely translates to accepting the ridiculous notion that the amendment applies to a mythical "collective right" of states to form militias.

Tens of millions of American gun owners know that to be hogwash. The right to keep and bear arms is an individual right. Until Democrats step up to the plate and say so, demonstrating in the process that they mean it, that important bloc of voting gun owners will continue to take its votes elsewhere.

Likewise, Democrats need to publicly acknowledge that – despite the claims of organizations that pander gun control as gun "safety" – gun control laws have not worked. The time has come to repeal some of those onerous laws, and stop treating gun owners like criminals.

Law-abiding American citizens should be able to own any kind of firearm they want, and Democrats need to accept this. People should be punished for misusing guns, not penalized for exercising a constitutional right. So long as Democrats think otherwise, they will never again be embraced as a party by gun owners.

Curiously, the media continues to ignore the gun vote phenomenon. Obviously, the press does not understand that gun owners may disagree among themselves on various social and political issues and levels. That happens in any "family." But like a family, gun owners come together forcefully when they see their fundamental right to own firearms threatened, and John Kerry – with his anti-gun voting record – embodied that threat.



POINT BLANK

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

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TIME TO ZAP THE UN?

Has the time come to zap the UN?

To kick the United Nations out of its privileged berth in New York City and to withdraw United States membership in and support for the international body?

These are serious questions. Many law-abiding American gun owners around the country and a number of generally conservative, pro-gun politicians in the Nation's Capital are asking these questions.

The United Nations, set up in the mid-1940s as the Second World War was coming to a close, had as its supposed major purpose the promotion of peace in the world.

That it never achieved this supposed goal, or even came close to it, is evident by the number of wars which have been fought since 1945. This includes the many armed conflicts in which large numbers of American fighting men and women have made generous sacrifices to serve the interests of our own nation and to preserve the liberty and security of our people.

What the United Nations has become is a privileged bureaucratic collection of loud-mouthed spokesmen for a bunch of countries which cannot hold a candle to the USA but which use the UN as a vehicle to undermine American interests and American traditions. This includes especially the traditional, individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

It is ensconced in the heart of the financial capital of our country. Lots of its bills are paid by money extracted from law-abiding American taxpayers.

Next year – 2005 – the United Nations plans to hold another in its

high-profile international series of meetings to promote, by international law if possible, the disarmament of law-abiding civilians, including American citizens, throughout the world.

In previous gatherings, the UN gun grabbers already have made known somewhat explicitly their objectives.

A number of United Nations delegates have met to consider the implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

UN agencies have called for “a comprehensive, coordinated and cooperative response to the challenge” of “eradicating the illicit small arms trade.” Ready for consideration are recommendations which amount to a comprehensive program for worldwide gun control, and call for a total ban on private ownership of so-called “assault rifles.” The UN gun grabbers propose that all small arms and light weapons which are not under legal civilian possession and which are not required for the purposes of national defense and internal security, should be collected and destroyed by states, including the United States, as expeditiously as possible.

They want all states, again including the United States, to determine in their national laws and regulations which arms are permitted for civilian possession and the conditions under which they can be used, acquired and traded. They demand that all countries ensure that they have adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to exer-

cise effective control over the legal possession of small arms and light weapons.

Under the UN plan, countries would be encouraged to integrate measures to control ammunition into prevention and reduction measures relating to small arms and light weapons specifically designed for military purposes.

As John Miller, Executive Vice President of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association, stated during the Gun Rights Policy Conference in suburban Washington, D.C. last September, there currently are “29 full time staff people working within the United Nations structure, working full time to deprive you of your rights.”

Miller said the UN wants a “legally binding treaty on small arms.” It desires to create a new bureaucracy to oversee and facilitate the treaty. He believes the long range plan is to ban civilian ownership of automatic and semiautomatic firearms, register all remaining guns in the hands of citizens all over the world, and place restrictions on the number of guns an individual may own.

One of the American Congressmen who want to do something about the situation is Rep. Ron Paul of Texas, a CCRKBA Congressional Advisor who holds CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month and Special CCRKBA Bill of Rights Awards. In several Congresses, he has introduced the proposed American Sovereignty Restoration Act to end all U.S. participation with the UN and expel it from the USA. He tells Point Blank he intends to introduce it again next year, at the beginning of the 109th Congress.

CCRKBA REACHES OUT TO PRO-GUN CANADIANS

CCRKBA, as part of our ongoing endeavor to solidify support for an individual right to keep and bear arms on an international basis, recently visited with pro-gun Canadian champions of the right to keep and bear arms in the Province of Quebec.

John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, met with Phil Simard, Quebec President of the Canadian National Firearms Association (NFA), Patrick Bernard, President of LaPrairie Hunting and Fishing Association, and other Association members at the Association outdoor Shooting Range in Napierville, Quebec, located about 50 miles from Montreal.

"In our meeting," said Snyder, "what struck me as most significant was their emphasis on how fortunate we, that is we in the United States, are to have 'a Second Amendment' as part and parcel of our nation's foundational document. Phil and Pat both stated quite clearly that it is tough for them to be battling against the anti-gun crowd in national and provincial parliaments.

"Canada requires that all gun owners be licensed that that all firearms be registered and places severe restrictions on handgun ownership. Phil and Pat stated that they realize how tough as it is for us to be battling against the anti-gun crowd in state legislatures and in Congress. However, they pointed out that they think we actually are much better off than they are in these two national aspects of what is fast becoming an international struggle. The reason, they said, is that, 'you have your Second Amendment, and we have nothing like that over here.'"

The pro-gun Canadians face a pow-

erful anti-gun establishment and anti-gun laws more restrictive than those in the United States. Disappointed as they were with the outcome of national elections earlier this year, when they had hoped that a pro-gun candidate, Conservative Stephen Harper, would wind up as Prime Minister, but did not, their sights are set on the future. "We'll be back," Simard told Snyder.

Pro-gun Canadians agree with us that restrictive gun laws really do not effectuate reductions in crime, including violent crime. They make it more difficult for law-abiding citizens to protect themselves and their loved ones and their property from criminals.

Their anti-gun opponents clearly are concerned. One of the factors underlying the concern is that the universal Canadian firearms registration system keeps costing the Canadian taxpayers more and more money. What was promoted originally as a million dollars type program now threatens to run into the billions.

According to a report appearing just this past fall in the Winnipeg Sun, for example, "the troubled federal gun registry could face further cuts under the government's 12 billion dollar expenditure review exercise this autumn. The program was fettered in May when the Liberals capped the registry's annual operating stipend at 25 million dollars in a pre-election announcement just before the writ was dropped. That doesn't mean it won't get another long look under the reallocation exercise being conducted by Revenue Minister John

McCallum. 'From his point of view, it's certainly on the table,' said McCallum spokesman Shane Diaczuk. And a senior government official said the gun registry would almost certainly be open to negotiation this fall. The program will be 'tough to defend because no one can say it hasn't been botched,' said the official. It could survive, 'but has to be changed.'"

Simard, Bernard and the Canadian NFA have their work cut out for them. In an anti-gun column appearing in *The Globe and Mail*, a national Canadian newspaper, Toronto, Ontario attorney Clayton Ruby wrote that, "strong gun control remains one of the core values that separate us from the United States. Despite the ludicrous claims that more guns result in less crime, most Canadians know that strong laws have set us on a safer path, very different from the one our neighbors to the south are taking."

Point Blank readers interested in learning more about pro-gun Canadian activities could write to the National Firearms Association, P. O. Box 52183, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2T5, Canada, phone NFA at (780) 439-1394, Fax them at (780) 439-4091, or e-mail them at nfainfo@nfa.can.



John Michael Snyder (Center) met with Phil Simard, and Patrick Bernard

FOLLOWING ELECTIONS, GUN GRABBERS DIFIANT

Although most observers saw in the results of last month's elections a rejection of the gun grabbers' agenda, the grabbers themselves attempted to put as favorable a spin on the results as they possibly could.

This means that the extremist anti-gun crowd, while it may have felt the heat, still isn't seeing the light.

It means also that the gun grabbers are not giving up.

Neither should we, if we intend to preserve our traditional individual Second Amendment civil right to keep and bear arms.

At this juncture, some gun owners may be inclined to think that the battle is over and that we don't have to fight any more, we can just sit back, relax and enjoy our pleasant, legitimate shooting activities. That attitude could be lethal. We are in

a long, drawn out legislative and political fight with a determined enemy. We cannot relax unless and until that enemy is demolished on legislative and political battlefields.

A week after the elections, the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence united with the Million Mom March proclaimed that the "elections may have led to victory for more conservatives, but on gun issues, an analysis of the results shows a trend towards greater support for sensible gun laws in some key battleground states that have not shows that support in the past.

"The results show that despite the extremist gun lobby's efforts to make a claim of victory, it actually suffered erosion of support in states where it once commanded clout."

The Brady Center statement fol-

lowed by a few days advice offered to Democrats by anti-gun columnist Nicholas D. Kristof in The New York Times. He told the party faithful: "Accept that today, gun control is a non-starter. Instead of trying to curb guns, try to reduce gun deaths through better rules on licensing and storage, and on safety devices like trigger locks."

Sarah Brady, however, the Campaign's Chair, said that, "if there's soul searching to do on the gun issue, it's inside the gun lobby, not among supporters of sensible gun laws."

Brady said, "that's why President Bush stayed clear of the gun lobby's rhetoric – and why the conservatives in Congress had better think twice before trying to roll back sensible gun laws."

CITIZEN ACTION PROJECT

The news for gun owners at the federal level is encouraging. With President Bush elected for another four year term and gains in both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives, now is the time to push a pro-Second Amendment agenda.

Several newspaper opinion pieces written discuss the Democratic Party's failure to connect with "middle America" and true American values. Several suggestions have been made to help the Party reach out to the American heartland, one of which is to soften their stance on gun control. We would be very surprised if this "softening" accomplished anything more than the kind of lip service John Kerry paid to the issue when he went duck hunting in Ohio two weeks before the election.

On a sadder note, U.S. Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist has been diagnosed with a severe form of thyroid cancer. It is highly likely that President Bush will have the opportunity in this term to appoint two or even three new Associate Justices, as well as a Chief Justice.

This will be the first big test for the Democrats in the Senate. Will Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV), the new Senate Minority Leader, work with the Republicans to ensure a fair hearing and vote for the President's appointees, or will he allow extremists like Charles Schumer and Hillary Clinton to continue to block sound judicial nominees with a threatened filibuster?

Now is the time to contact your two U.S. Senators and ask that they recognize the people's choice in reelecting President Bush. The majority of voters have approved the President's agenda, and that should extend to his choice(s) to fill Supreme Court positions. Ask your Senators to throw their support behind the president's nominee(s), give them swift Senate confirmation, and show that the country is truly united.

VIRGINIA'S GOODLATTE THE CCRKBA DEFENDER

Congressman Bob Goodlatte of Virginia gets the CCRKBA nod for the Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award for December.

In nominating the legislator for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director said that, "Rep. Bob Goodlatte throughout his public career has been a consistent supporter of the individual Second Amendment civil right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms. Most recently, he has contributed to the building-up of the public image of people who actually use guns in ways that benefit society. He has done this by promoting the activities of Hunters for the Hungry. In this season of the year, when good Americans tend to be interested in promoting the welfare of the less fortunate members of our society, it seems appropriate to recognize Rep. Bob Goodlatte in this regard. He is most deserving of this Award."

Recently, the U.S. House of Representatives acted on a motion by Rep. Goodlatte. Under the Goodlatte motion, the House suspended its rules and agreed to a resolution introduced by Rep. Phil Gingrey of Georgia recognizing the establishment of Hunters for the Hungry programs across the United States and the contributions of those programs to decrease hunger and help feed those in need.

Goodlatte noted the resolution also recognized the collaborative efforts of hunters, sportsmen's associations, meat processors, state meat inspectors and hunger relief organizations to establish Hunters for the Hungry programs across the United States.

Congressman Goodlatte, Chair-

man of the House Committee on Agriculture, cited the importance of the program to Virginia. He stated that meat often is not regularly available to agencies serving the needy. Venison is a low-fat, high-protein meat that can be processed and distributed through the program for an average of 70 cents per pound. Since its establishment in 1991, the Virginia Hunters for the Hungry program has distributed over 1.9 million pounds of venison. In the 2003-2004 hunting season alone, Virginia hunters donated 308,274 pounds of venison.

"Americans are generous people and many individuals work through private organizations to donate food to help needy families," Chairman Goodlatte said. "The U.S. government helps through programs like the food stamp program and food distribution programs. Great strides are being made to provide nutritious, high-protein meat to those experiencing hunger in our communities by individuals in the private sector. I commend the generosity of Virginia hunters and all who participate in the Hunters for the Hungry program. Your contributions are a step in the right direction."

When a hunter donates a deer, professional meat cutters at inspected facilities process it. The meat is then packaged, frozen and distributed to food banks, soup kitchens, church food pantries and other nonprofit organizations.

Since becoming a Member of Congress in 1993, Bob points out, "I have been a staunch supporter of citizens' right to keep and bear arms. As a member of the House of Repre-

sentatives' Second Amendment Caucus, I strongly believe that our Second Amendment right to keep and bear arms must be protected. These are fundamental rights that Congress cannot infringe. Rather, we must ensure that the intent of the Founding Fathers and the Constitutional rights of all Americans are respected and preserved.

Bob's congressional service began in 1977 when he became District Director for former Congressman Caldwell Butler, also an outspoken champion of the right to keep and bear arms. He served in this position until 1979. In that year, he founded his own private law practice in Roanoke, Virginia. He was a partner in the law firm of Bird, Kinder and Huffman, working there from 1981 until taking office in Congress. He now is completing his sixth term in the House of Representatives and was reelected to a seventh term last month.

Bob is Co-Chair of the Congressional Internet Caucus, and Chairman of the House Republican High Technology Working Group. He serves on the House Republican Cyber-Security Task Force.

Rep. Goodlatte serves on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security and as Vice Chairman of the Courts, the Internet and Intellectual Property Subcommittee.

Bob received his undergraduate degree in government at Bates College in Lewiston, Maine, and his law degree from Washington and Lee University. He and Maryellen, his wife of 30 years, live in Roanoke with their two children, Jenny, age 21, and Bobby, age 18.



QUICK SHOTS

Nationally syndicated personal advice columnist Dr. Joyce Brothers noted recently she received a letter from a parent whose 10-year old son came home from visiting a neighbor but that there was a "problem." The youngster was "all excited with tales of seeing handguns and rifles in the child's home...the mother told me that her family believes in protecting themselves with firearms, should a criminal or 'the government' try to mess with them. We don't understand that kind of thinking." Brothers wrote that, "I don't understand it either. Even in a suburb where crime is an issue, there are usually competent police forces around to handle the problem." Point Blank readers who may wish to help the columnist understand her problem could write to Dr. Joyce Brothers via King Features, 888 Seventh Avenue, New York, NY 10019.



In Greenwood, Indiana, some neighbors are upset with rock and gun dealer Don Davis who displays an eight-foot ornamental rock in front of his home in suburban Indianapolis. The rock depicts an eagle and Old Glory with the inscription: "It's better to own a gun and not need it than to need a gun and not own it." Highland Park Neighborhood Association President John Nystrom says the rock violates the group's covenants and that he's received many complaints about it. Davis, owner of two Don's Guns shops in Indianapolis, says that, "the only

way I am going to remove that rock is if one of our fine judges protecting the Constitution tells me to."



Violent crime fell last year, with a slight increase in murders marring the overall trend of fewer crimes across the country, the FBI said some weeks ago in its annual report. There were just under 1.4 million crimes of murder, manslaughter, rape, robbery and aggravated assault in 2003, three percent fewer than 2002 and a decline of more than 25 percent from 1994. The 2003 figure translates to a rate of 475 violent crimes for every 100,000 Americans, a 3.9 percent decrease from the previous year, the FBI noted. Aggravated assaults, which make up two-thirds of all violent crimes, have dropped for 10 straight years. Murder was the only violent crime that increased in 2003, with the 16,503 slayings reported by police to the FBI representing a 1.7 percent hike from the previous year. Nearly eight in 10 murder victims last year were male and 90 percent were adults.



Writing recently in the Charlotte, North Carolina Observer, attorney Thomas J. Ashcraft, a former U.S. Attorney, noted that, "broad ownership of firearms among law-abiding citizens serves a fundamental political purpose. It communicates to those in control of the machinery of government that they do not have a monopoly on the means to use force and that tyranny by the rulers may provoke

a lethal reaction from the people...Second, the right of a law-abiding citizen to own a gun is a sure means of self-defense. People with firearms, even if law enforcement becomes unable to maintain the peace in a specific locale, are capable of defending themselves, their families, others and property against killers, assailants, rapists and thieves."



Christie's of New York announced the auction of two pistols belonging to South American Independence hero Simon Bolivar, the founder of several Republics. The firm set the opening bid last month as \$800,000. A Christie's spokesperson said the pistols are part of a sale of Latin American art, noting that, "Bolivar bought the pistols in Paris, France around 1805 and used them in several Independence wars." According to the firm, Manuela Saena, Bolivar's "great love," gave the pistols to Englishman Ricardo Illingworth the year Bolivar died, 1830. The pistols feature a little plaque with two hearts intertwined. In 2002, Christie's sold a pair of pistols that had belonged to U.S. President George Washington for almost two million dollars.

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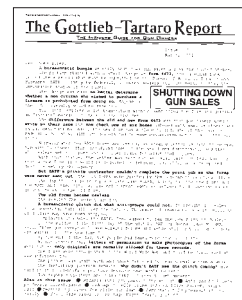
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