

AUTUMN CRUCIAL FOR GUN RIGHTS

By John Michael Snyder
Editor, POINT BLANK

With the coming of the autumn season this month, the crunch is on for gun rights in America.

This is because of the potential for congressional activity concerning the right to keep and bear arms during the next several weeks AND because of important elections coming up in a couple of months.

As noted elsewhere in this and past issues of POINT BLANK, the anti-gun Clinton-Gore Administration and its allies in Congress are working:

- to extend the waiting period in the Brady Law beyond its current sunset date of November 30;
- to make it permanent;
- to use the instant, point-of-firearms-purchase criminal records check system which is supposed to supplant the waiting period as a basis for creating a registry of legally-purchased firearms even though it's contrary to law to do so;
- to impose a gun tax on lawful gun purchases; and
- other initiatives in their anti-gun owner bag of horrors.

While pro-gun forces on Capitol Hill generally have been successful in pinpointing and attacking gun grabber initiatives in recent weeks and months, time is running out for this Congress and adjournment is only weeks away. That's why it's most important now to keep those letters and phone calls coming into Congress. Let your U.S. Representative and your U.S. Senators know that you're watching them and you're watching what they'll be doing with regard to legislative issues involving the right to keep and bear arms.

Your actions now and on Election Day are crucial. Most polling data indicate that voter participation in this year's elections is likely to be lower than it has been in recent years. That means that you will be able to have a greater influence on the outcome than in previous years if only you will take righteous advantage of the situation.

This is important not only in congressional elections but in elections for governors and state legislatures and also with reference to certain state and local ballot issue initiatives. The legislative battle for the right to keep and bear arms is being fought out at every level of government these days.

You and people like you, your relatives, friends and associates who believe strongly in the right to keep and bear arms, in the right to protect life and property from criminal assault, have a golden opportunity now to help move the country once again in the proper direction.

It's important for gun owners, too, to begin to realize that the political and legislative battle for the right to keep and bear arms is a perpetual one. The gun grabbers are committed ideologically and psychologically to their cause and are not dissuaded from their objectives by either truth or defeat. For whatever mistaken intellectual notion or deep-rooted emotional problem may be the cause, these gun grabbers, including many elitists in the media, in some churches, in politics and in academe, suffer from an overwhelming personal animosity towards firearms and gun ownership by average citizens.

That means that we who believe in the right to keep and bear arms and in the truth and justice of our cause ourselves must be dedicated to fighting for that right on a perpetual, long-term basis. We need your support and that's why we ask for it so often. We really do need it. We need it in order to keep on fighting for the

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

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**National Headquarters:
12500 N.E. Tenth Place
Bellevue, Washington 98005**

**Capitol Hill Office:
600 Pennsylvania Ave. S.E. #205
Washington, D.C. 20003**

BIRDS CLINTON AND SCHUMER, OF A GUN-GRABBING FEATHER, ARE FLOCKING TOGETHER, SAYS GUN RIGHTS

"President Bill Clinton and Congressman Chuck Schumer of New York demonstrated August 6 that birds of a feather do indeed flock together," John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, commented in Washington, D. C.

"The two gun-grabbing politicians got together August 6 at the scandal-ridden White House to promote the Schumer bill, H.R. 4233, which would extend a three-day handgun purchase waiting period beyond the November 30 sunset date for the Brady Act current five-day waiting period," noted Snyder, named "Dean" of gun lobbyists by THE WASHINGTON POST, THE WASHINGTON TIMES and THE NEW YORK TIMES. A national firearms instant point-of-purchase criminal records check system is slated to replace the handgun purchase waiting period on November 30.

"Clinton and Schumer," Snyder continued, "obviously are out of touch with the latest academic research on the issues of crime and firearms ownership. This study is MORE GUNS LESS CRIME, authored by Professor John R. Lott, Jr. and published this year by the University of Chicago Press. It demonstrates conclusively that waiting periods do not correlate with decreases in rates of violent crime. In fact, they correlate with increases. The only truly effective crime-fighting legislative approach in this field are non-discretionary state right-to-carry concealed firearms (CCW) systems.

"If Clinton and Schumer were interested genuinely in promoting a safer society, they would support proposed federal reciprocity legislation for non-discretionary state CCW systems.

"Instead, these two characters are intent on undercutting the ability of law-abiding citizens to protect life, liberty and property by infringing on their Second Amendment individual right to acquire instruments of self-defense in a timely manner. Under the guise of crime control, they would undermine the safety of society. Truly, they are masters of deceit."

Also joining Clinton and Schumer in the White House Rose Garden anti-gun mini-extravaganza on August 6 were Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, Sarah and Jim Brady of Handgun Control, Inc., and representatives of the anti-gun International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Clinton used the occasion to call for a permanent extension of a national handgun purchase waiting period. He also extolled the Brady Law generally and attacked opponents of government plans to maintain records of firearms purchases approved under the instant criminal records check system and to charge a user fee or tax even though such actions are prohibited specifically by current provisions of the Brady Law.

Schumer's appearance at the anti-gun White House press conference was seen as an attempt on his part to inject new life into his campaign for the Democratic nomination this month to oppose Sen. Al D'Amato of New York, a Republican, in November's general election.

When Schumer introduced H.R. 4233, the proposed Brady Waiting Period Extension Act of 1998, which was referred to the House Judiciary Committee, he said "this is just a dynamite issue in the campaign" in an interview with THE NEW YORK TIMES.

"To Mr. Schumer and his aides," reported the TIMES, "a full-throated debate on the Brady Law would be political manna, rekindling memories of one of Mr. Schumer's greatest legislative victories. He was an author and sponsor of the original Brady Bill."

Noting that "the measure's passage in 1993 represented a stunning defeat for" the gun lobby, continued the TIMES, "it transformed Mr. Schumer from just another aggressive New York politician into a national figure. He became a ubiquitous presence on television, a spokesman for the gun control movement..."

"This is going to be one of the few battle royals of this Congress," contended Mr. Schumer, who has already begun spotlighting gun control in speeches and commercials.

"All three of the Democrats in the race - Mr. Schumer, Geraldine A. Ferraro and Mark Green - are strong supporters of gun control. But Mr. Schumer is the most closely identified with the issue, pollsters say. And now, having languished in second or third place in public opinion polls, Mr. Schumer is clearly looking to a high-profile debate to help his campaign.

"First, a well-publicized battle would help close the name-recognition gap separating him from Ms. Ferraro, the former

Congresswoman and Vice-Presidential candidate, who is widely viewed as the front-runner in the primary. Second, political strategists say that gun control is popular among women, whom Ms. Ferraro is counting on to overwhelmingly support her...

"But Mr. Schumer says the real benefit will come in the general election, if he reaches that point, against the three-term incumbent, Senator Alphonse M. D'Amato..."

"Clearly, the passage of the Brady Law in 1993, followed by enactment of the ban on assault weapons in 1994 - a law that Mr. Schumer also helped write - were the pinnacle of his 18-year tenure in Congress."



POINT BLANK

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

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| Editor | John M. Snyder |
| Publisher | Alan M. Gottlieb |
| Managing Editor | J. H. Versnel |
| Associate Editors | Mike Connelly Merrill Jacobs Bob Kukla Peggy Tartaro Joe Waldron |

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CCRKBA PRAISES COLUMN ON SAFETY AND SYMBOLISM

A recent article entitled "Safety and Symbolism" by nationally syndicated columnist Jacob Sullum "hits the nail right on the head as far as current legislative issues regarding the right of law-abiding citizens to keep and bear arms are concerned," John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said.

In the column, appearing August 8 in THE WASHINGTON TIMES, Sullum wrote that "to liberal politicians, guns represent violence and disorder. This symbolism is more important to them than the real-life consequences of gun control - a point illustrated by the issue's role in two U.S. Senate races.

"More and more people, including responsible gun owners, want to see some reasonable gun control," says Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun. But her idea of what's reasonable may not be shared by responsible gun owners.

"The Illinois Democrat is running for re-election against Republican state legislator Peter Fitzgerald, who says law-abiding citizens should be allowed to carry handguns if they undergo 50 hours of firearms training. In response, Mrs. Moseley-Braun has been bragging about her cosponsorship of the Concealed Weapons Prohibition Act.

"Introduced last year, this bill would override the laws of 31 states that allow citizens who meet certain criteria - typically, passing a criminal background check and completing a training course - to carry handguns. The legislation recognizes a few privileged categories, including police officers and security guards; anyone else seeking a carry permit would have to demonstrate 'compelling circumstances.'

"The bill asserts that nondiscretionary permit laws result in more homicides 'by enabling the rapid escalation of minor conflicts into deadly shootings.' But as University of Chicago economist John R. Lott shows in his new book MORE GUNS LESS CRIME, such laws are not associated with increases in violence.

"If anything, Mr. Lott argues, allowing law-abiding citizens to carry guns helps deter crime. Using county-level crime data covering a 15-year period, he estimates that adoption of nondiscretionary permit laws is associated, on average, with an eight percent drop in murder.

"But Mrs. Moseley-Braun does not seem particularly concerned about how gun laws operate in the real world. 'One would think that after the recent tragedies involving shootings at schools in Arkansas and Oregon,' she says, 'it would be clear that the last thing we need is legislation allowing people to carry concealed weapons in public places.'

"Given the details of the murders in Jonesboro and Springfield, it's hard to see the connection. None of the accused shooters had a handgun permit; carrying firearms into school grounds was illegal in any case; and the main weapons involved were rifles.

"Mrs. Moseley-Braun's non sequitur reflects a familiar pattern. Gun control proposals often have little or nothing to do with the events that supposedly justify them.

"Consider the Brady Law, a response to the attempted assassination of Ronald Reagan. As David Kopel of the Colorado-based Independence Institute has shown, it is quite unlikely that the background check and waiting period required by the 1993 law would have prevented John Hinckley's attack.

"Such minor details do not faze Charles Schumer. The Brooklyn Democrat, a co-author of the Brady Law, wants to retain its five-day waiting period for handgun purchases, a requirement scheduled to expire on November 30.

"Mr. Schumer, who is seeking the Democratic nomination for Al D'Amato's Senate seat, calls gun control 'a dynamite issue.' He says running against Mr. D'Amato, who opposed the Brady Law, would be like 'a high-noon drama.'

"Drama aside, is there any evidence that Mr. Schumer's law has reduced crime? The Justice Department reports that 69,000 handgun sales, about three percent of attempted purchases, were blocked in 1997 as a result of background checks. Sixty-two percent of the rejected applicants had been convicted of felonies or were under felony indictments.

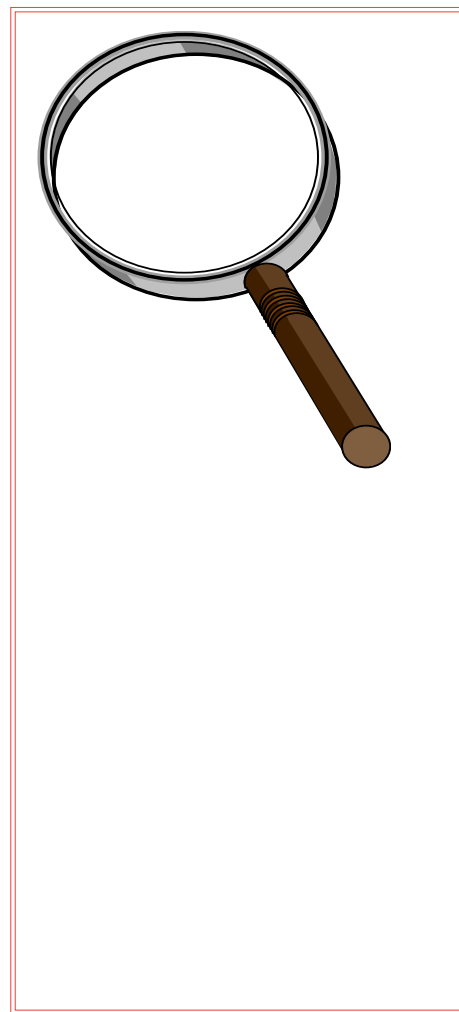
"Along with bank robbers and muggers, this category would include check kitters, drug users, and other nonviolent offenders, plus guys who got into a bar-room fight or two in their youth. It's not clear how many of these people, if any, planned to commit crimes with the guns

they tried to buy.

"Those who did may ultimately have obtained weapons through other means. They could have borrowed a gun, stolen one, bought one on the black market, or asked someone else to make the purchase. If background checks deter criminals, they must be the easily discouraged sort.

"There is even less reason to believe a waiting period prevents violence. Supporters say a waiting period allows potential murderers time to 'cool off.' But anyone who leaves the scene of an argument, drives to a gun shop, buys a weapon, loads it with ammunition, and returns to kill his interlocutor can hardly be said to be acting in the heat of the moment.

"Mr. Schumer, of course, need not worry about whether gun control actu-



HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE APPROVES AS CCRKBA SEES ISSUE AT HEART OF

Early last month, the House Judiciary Committee, on a voice vote, approved H. R. 218, by Rep. Duke Cunningham of California, as amended by Rep. Bill McCollum of Florida, Chairman of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime.

As introduced initially, H. R. 218, the proposed Community Protection Act of 1998, would allow active and retired law enforcement officers to carry concealed firearms for personal protection throughout the country.

With the addition of the McCollum Amendment, the bill also would create reciprocity agreements among the states that have non-discretionary right-to-carry concealed firearms permit systems. If H.R. 218 as amended were to become law, the states which have non-discretionary right-to-carry firearms permit systems would recognize one another's permits. This would mean that holders of permits in any of the states with the permit systems could carry in other states which have similar systems.

After the House Judiciary Committee acted, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said in Washington, D. C. that "the vote is a significant step not only in the fight against crime, but also in the struggle to preserve and promote the right of law-abiding citizens to be able to defend life, liberty and property from criminals, especially violent criminals.

"We hope that the full House will take up this measure following the summer recess and that it will act favorably on it."

Snyder said he thought that the ongoing specific battle about the carrying of concealed firearms by law-abiding citizens today is at the heart of the general battle to preserve the traditional right of law-abiding American citizens to keep and bear arms.

The reason is that the underlying issue in the CCW controversy itself is at the very center of the overall controversy regarding the right to keep and bear arms.

The basic argument of the gun control movement is that public policy allowing guns in the hands of ordinary citizens somehow correlates with violent

criminality. The gun grabbers believe that ordinary citizens have no legitimate need today to own firearms, that guns in the hands of private citizens cause more harm than good and that, therefore, there really are no grounds in this day and age to accept a right of citizens generally to keep and bear arms.

However, when law-abiding citizens are allowed not only to own firearms but also to carry them and to carry them concealed and that, when they do so, violent crime rates decrease and society therefore becomes safer for the generality of citizens, the whole basic argument of the gun grabbers not only is undermined but, in fact, is absolutely demolished.

As the most recent scholarly research shows, this is exactly what is happening on the academic front.

The challenge now is to advance from the academic front to the national legislative and political front. That is why the House Judiciary Committee approval of the amended H.R. 218 is so important.

The establishment powers that be have not yet accepted what has been demonstrated on the academic front. Generally, they are locked in an intellectual strait-jacket which prevents them not only from seeing that guns do not cause crime but also that guns in the hands of law-abiding citizens actually can reduce crime.

To most of us on the pro-gun side of the argument, the scholarly research confirms what our common sense always has told us. Criminals don't want to face the possibility of meeting an armed citizen during the perpetration of a criminal act so they are more likely to avoid the possibility of such a confrontation if they know a citizen is armed or might be armed.

Today, at least 30 states have non-discretionary ccw permit systems. Under these systems, state authorities must grant permits to carry concealed firearms to citizens who apply for them and who do not fall into certain prohibited categories.

The current scholarly research shows clearly that the initiation and implementation of these non-discretionary permit systems correlate with significant decreases in rates of violent crimes.

In this public debate it is necessary, over and over again, to state rationally the case for firearms ownership by law-abiding

citizens in an effort to overcome the apparently ingrained prejudicial bias of much of the self-proclaimed intellectual elite who fill influential positions in the media, in the churches, in politics and in the educational institutions.

The most recent comprehensive study of the whole guns and crime issue is the book MORE GUNS LESS CRIME, by Professor John R. Lott, Jr., published this year by the University of Chicago Press. Its over 200 pages are filled with facts, statistics and surveys.

In summarizing findings of his study, Professor Lott writes that "over the last decade, gun ownership has been growing for virtually all demographic groups, though the fastest growing group of gun owners is Republican women, 30 to 40 years of age, who live in rural areas. National crime rates have been falling at the same time as gun ownership has been rising. Likewise, states experiencing the greatest reductions in crime are also the ones with the fastest growing percentages of gun ownership.

"Overall, my conclusion is that criminals as a group tend to behave rationally - when crime becomes more difficult, less crime is committed. Higher arrest and conviction rates dramatically reduce crime. Criminals also move out of jurisdictions in which criminal deterrence increases. Yet criminals respond to more than just the actions taken by the police and the courts. Citizens can take private actions that also deter crime. Allowing citizens to carry concealed handguns reduces violent crimes, and the reductions coincide very closely with the number of concealed handgun permits issued. Mass shootings in public places are reduced when law-abiding citizens are allowed to carry concealed handguns.

"Not all crime categories showed reductions, however. Allowing concealed handguns might cause small increases in larceny and auto theft. When potential victims are able to arm themselves, some criminals turn away from crimes like robbery that require direct attacks and turn instead to such crimes as auto theft, where the probability of direct contact with victims is small.

"There are other surprises as well. While the support for the strictest gun

PROVES CCW RECIPROCITY MEASURE OF RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS STRUGGLE

control laws is usually strongest in large cities, the largest drops in violent crime from legalized concealed handguns occurred in the most urban counties with the greatest populations and the highest crime rates. Given the limited resources available to law enforcement and our desire to spend those resources wisely to reduce crime, the results of my studies have implications for where police should concentrate their efforts. For example, I found that increasing arrest rates in the most crime-prone areas led to the greatest reductions in crime. Comparisons can also be made across different methods of fighting crime. Of all the methods studied so far by economists, the carrying of concealed handguns appears to be the most cost-effective method for reducing crime. Accident and suicide rates were unaltered by the presence of concealed handguns.

"Guns also appear to be the great equalizer among the sexes. Murder rates decline when either more women or more men carry concealed handguns, but the effect is especially pronounced for women. One additional woman carrying a concealed handgun reduces the murder rate for women by about three to four times more than one additional man carrying a concealed handgun reduces the murder rate for men. This occurs because allowing a woman to defend herself with a concealed handgun produces a much larger change in her ability to defend herself than the change created by providing a man with a handgun.

"While some evidence indicates that increased penalties for using a gun in the commission of a crime reduce crime, the effect is small. Furthermore, I find no crime-reduction benefits from state-mandated waiting periods and background checks before people are allowed to purchase guns. At the federal level, the Brady Law has proven to be no more effective. Surprisingly, there is also little benefit from training requirements or age restrictions for concealed handgun permits."

Since the evidence is there that state non-discretionary permit systems correlate so positively with reductions in rates of violent crime, it seems the next logical step in the formulation of public policy in

the area of guns and crime would be the enactment of a national state reciprocity non-discretionary permit systems law.

That precisely is the concept underlying the proposed Right to Safety and Personal Protection Act, introduced as H. R. 339 in the U. S. House of Representatives by Rep. Cliff Stearns of Florida and as S. 816 in the Senate by Sen. Larry Craig of Idaho, and referred to the respective House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

Both Craig and Stearns are CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Awardees.

Their legislative proposal would go at least a step further than H. R. 218 as amended since it would allow an individual with a permit-to-carry issued by any state to carry in any state, even in a state which does not have a permit-to-carry system.

Designed to facilitate the ability of law-abiding citizens to protect themselves, their families and their property, the measure, if enacted into law, would allow that the law of each state govern conduct within that state where the state has a right-to-carry statute, and that federal law would provide a "bright-line" standard of conduct applicable to states which do not have a right-to-carry statute.

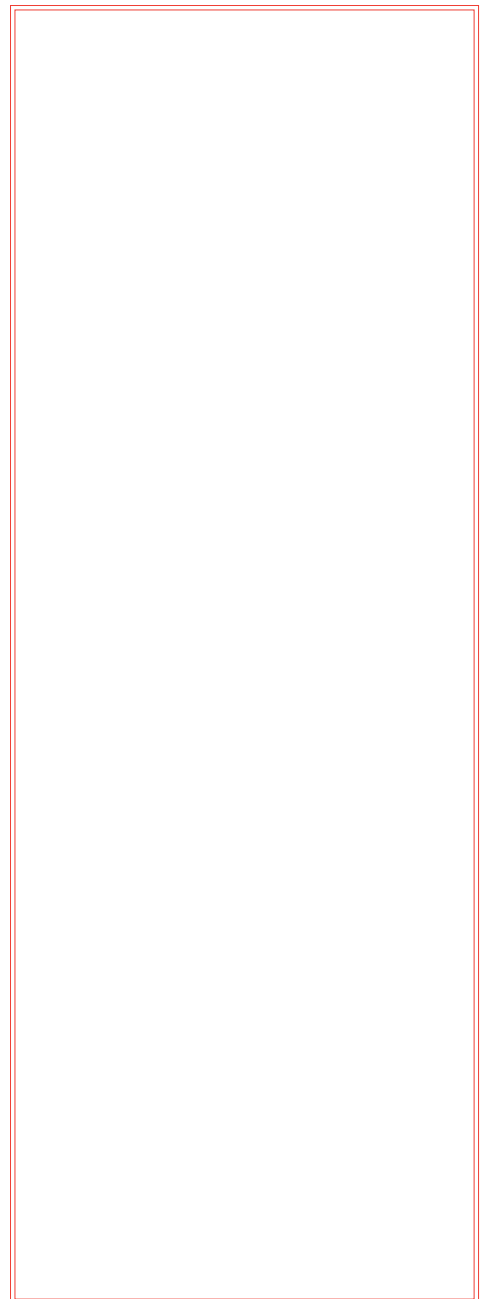
Under the Stearns-Craig proposal, if state A has a right-to-carry statute, an individual's conduct who was licensed in state B would be governed by the right-to-carry laws of state A while he was traveling within state A. Therefore, if state A imparts more privileges upon the individual licensed to carry than state B, then the individual licensed to carry in state B would be governed by the right-to-carry laws of state A while he was in state A.

The individual licensed in state B would also be in compliance with the law if he carried in state C with no right-to-carry statute pursuant to the federal bright-line standard. The federal bright-line standard governing those states with no right-to-carry statute would solve the problem of states with no carry licenses and thus no standards.

This federal bright-line standard, explained Congressman Stearns, "would

govern conduct only, meaning it would govern where one may not carry a concealed firearm notwithstanding the fact that they have a license to carry. It is intended to make clear that an individual may not carry a concealed firearm in certain highly sensitive locations, such as court rooms, police stations, schools and other locations."

He said that "the federal bright-line



TOM GRESHAM THE CCRKBA AWARDEE

Tom Gresham of Natchitoches, Louisiana is the designated recipient of the CCRKBA Gun Rights Defender of the Month Award for September.

In nominating Gresham for the Award, John Michael Snyder, CCRKBA Public Affairs Director, said that "Tom truly is a unique figure in the pro-gun movement. He is a most accomplished genuine pro-gun media personality. As the host of Tom Gresham's Gun Talk, a nationally-syndicated live call-in radio program, he is one of the leaders in revolutionizing and modernizing communications of the pro-gun movement. He certainly is most deserving of this Award."

Born November 11, 1951 in Phoenix, Arizona, Tom's family moved early on in his life to Louisiana and he spent most of his growing-up years in the state. After attending Northwestern Louisiana State University, Tom moved over to the study of photo journalism at the University of Missouri.

Tom started up the Gun Talk radio program three years ago and, for the last three years, he has been listed as one of the 100 most important radio talk show hosts in America by TALKERS MAGAZINE, a radio industry publication. Since there are about 3,400 radio talk show hosts in the United States, this places Tom way up in the top percentile.

His guests on the program have included Charlton Heston, President of the National Rifle Association, Alan M. Gottlieb, Chairman of CCRKBA, Wayne LaPierre, Executive Vice President of NRA, Tanya K. Metaksa, Executive Director of the NRA Institute for Legislative Action, Richard Feldman, Executive Director of the American Shooting Sports Council, and Tommy Noonan, President of Remington Arms.

The program runs from two to five on Sunday afternoons (EST) on a number of radio stations throughout the country and also may be heard world wide live on the internet, at www.guntalk.com or www.talkamerica.com. Talk America also lists time and additional stations.

A certified firearms instructor, licensed private pilot and certified Scuba diver, Tom is:

- Co-host of the Chevy Trucks Shooting Sports America television series on

ESPN;

- Arms and Ammo Editor of SPORTS AFIELD magazine. With a circulation of 600,000, this is the oldest sporting magazine in the U.S. Tom's father is the Shooting Editor;

- Columnist for SHOT Business magazine, writing regular departments on ammunition and optics. SHOT Business is a trade magazine going to 15,000 gun store owners in the United States;

- Contributor to RURAL SPORTSMAN magazine, a new publication with a national circulation of 640,000;

- Co-author of WEATHERBY: THE MAN, THE GUN, THE LEGEND, a best-selling biography of firearms industry pioneer Roy E. Weatherby;

- Author of CLOSE CALLS, published by the NRA, accounts of difficult situations experienced by people while hunting in the great outdoors;

- A consultant on firearms issues; and An award winning photographer and writer.

POINT BLANK readers wishing to tune in Tom Gresham's Gun Talk may try one of the following stations: WSMQ-AM1450 (Birmingham); Anchorage AK KBYR-AM 700; Fort Smith AR KWHN-AM 1320; Rogers AR KAMO-AM 1320; Phoenix AZ KHEP-AM 1280; KYET-AM 1180 (Flagstaff); KDAC-AM 1230 (San Francisco); Fresno CA KFRE-AM 940; KVLI-AM 1140 (Bakersville); KSPY-FM 100.3 (Sacramento); KUKI-AM 1400 (Oakland); Yreka CA KSYC-AM 1490; Mount Shasta CA KMJC-AM 620; Greeley CO KSIR-AM 1010; Brush CO KSIR-FM 107.1; WNTF-AM 1580 (Orlando); Mims FL WPGS-AM 840; Marco Island FL WODX-AM 1480; Panama City FL WYOO-FM 101.3; St. Augustine FL WFOY-AM 1240; St. Augustine Beach FL WKLN-AM 1170; Tallahassee FL WTAL-FM 105.7; WGIG-AM 1440 (Jacksonville FL); Valdosta GA WFVR-AM 910; KBLI-AM 1620 (Idaho Falls); KIOV-AM 1450 (Boise); WBGZ-AM 1570 (St. Louis MO); Kewanee IL WKEI-AM 1450; Olney IL WVLN-AM 740; Taylorville IL WTIM-AM 1410; Kendallville IN WAWK-AM 1140; Linton IN WBTO-AM 1600; Terre Haute IN WBOW-AM 640; Salina KS KFRM-AM 550; Elizabethtown KY WIEL-AM 1400; Hopkinsville KY

WHOP-AM 1230; Alexandria LA KTLD-AM 1110; Baton Rouge LA WJBO-AM 1150; WASO-AM 730 (New Orleans); Delhi LA KGGM-FM 93.5; Shreveport LA KEEL-AM 710; KAIN-AM 1040 (Natchez MS); Lewiston ME KTME-AM 1240; South Paris ME WKTQ-AM 1450; WSER-AM 1550 (Baltimore); Boston MA WRPT-AM 650; Concord MA WADN-AM 1120; Fall River MA WSAR-AM 1480; Taunton MA WPEP-AM 1570; Orange MA WCAT-AM 700; Charlevoix MI WMKT-AM 1270; Grand Rapids MI WTKG-AM 1230; Marine City MI WIFN-AM 1590; Eveleth MN KRBT-AM 1340; Meridian MS WMOX-AM 1010; WJNT-AM 1180 (Jackson); KSWM-AM 940 (Springfield MO); KCXL-AM 1450 (Kansas City); Poplar Bluff MO KLID-AM 1340; KDGR-AM 1400 (Butte); Hastings NE KICS-AM 1550; Reno NV KPTT-AM 1450; Newport NH WNTK-AM 1020; New London NH WNTK-FM 99.7; Atlantic City NJ WFPG-AM 1450; Clovis NM KICA-AM 980; Deming NM KOTS-AM 1230; Roswell NM KCKN-AM 1020; Glens Falls NY WBZA-AM 1230; Aberdeen NC WQNX-AM 1350; WHKY-AM 1290 (Charlotte); WECO-AM 1460 (Fayetteville); Valdese NC WSVN-AM 1490; Wilson NC WVOT-AM 1420; New Boston OH WIOI-AM 1010; Enid OK KCRC-AM 1390; KNOR-AM 1400 (Oklahoma City); Coos Bay OR KTBR-FM 94.1; Portland OR KBNP-AM 1410; Roseburg OR KTBR-AM 950; WMBN-AM 1460 (Pittsburgh); Charleston SC WQNT-AM 1450; Vermillion SD KOSZ-AM 1570; Chattanooga TN WGOW-AM 1150; Jackson TN WNSW-FM 101.5; Morristown TN WMTN-AM 1300; WZNG-AM 1580 (Nashville); Abeline TX KHXS-AM 106.3; Amarillo TX KTNZ-AM 1010; Crockett TX KIVY-AM 1250; Longview TX KEES-AM 1430; Lubbock TX KFYO-AM 790; Tyler TX KYZX-AM 1490; KZEE-AM 1220 (Ft. Worth); Salt Lake City UT KALL-AM 910; Blackstone VA WKLV-AM 1440; WREL-AM 1450 (Roanoke); Tazewell VA WTZE-AM 1470; Aberdeen WA KBKW-AM 1450; Everett WA KRKO-AM 1380; Spokane WA KSNB-AM 1230; Medford WI WIGM-AM 1490; Beckley WV WVNR-AM 620; Bluefield WV WHIS-AM 1440; Clarksburg WV WHAR-AM 1340; Martinsburg WV WRNR-AM



QUICK SHOTS

ers are required to have personnel records reviewed against the Lautenberg amendment criteria and report personnel data on those identified through command channels to the Department of the Army.

"Commanders were further directed to detail soldiers whom they believe have a conviction for a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence to duties that do not require the bearing of weapons or ammunition. Further adverse administrative action and bars to reenlistment may be imposed for an act of domestic violence that resulted in a conviction after September 30, 1996. Commanders must also take action to secure personal firearms and ammo of soldiers under this law.

"Personnel who have a civil misdemeanor conviction for domestic violence that was never reported to military authorities may now be asked to provide that information. Those who decline to report such adverse information may later be subject to administrative action for falsifying documentation or misrepresentation. It would be most appropriate for personnel who have never reported such incidents to get legal advice.

"The old sarge, like the Defense Department, finds the bill misguided with regard to military personnel. From 1969 to 1996 Congress was wise to adhere to the Pentagon's request to exempt military personnel from the legislation. Now that the military services are required to reassign these personnel from positions requiring the use of arms and munitions, there may be an adverse impact on the country's combat readiness."

Reps. Rod R. Blagojevich of Illinois and Patrick J. Kennedy of Rhode Island introduced H.R. 4114, to prohibit internet and mail-order sales of ammunition without a license to deal in firearms, and require licensed firearms dealers to record all sales of 1,000 rounds of ammunition to a single person. It was referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

said Rev. Ramsey, who would not say whether he would carry a concealed firearm in church.

He says that churches are robbery targets because of the offerings they collect. Though his church has never been robbed, reports the Associated Press, he is worried by the two dozen burglaries, thefts and vandalism incidents at area churches in the past two years.

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By a vote of 54 to 44, the U. S. Senate rejected an attempt by Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California to ban importation of ammunition feeding devices with a capacity of over 10 rounds made prior to enactment of the 1994 ban on certain semiautomatic firearms. Feinstein's attempt came during Senate consideration in July of a government appropriations measure.

◆ ◆ ◆
In response to a question appearing in THE WASHINGTON TIMES' "Sgt. Shaft" column, John Fales wrote last month that "you and many other active military types must now carry a barrister's beeper number instead of a weapon to protect your careers. Your concerns are well-founded as even now Department of Defense legal beagles are floundering around attempting to implement the Lautenberg amendment to the Gun Control Act of 1968.

"The amendment, which became law on September 30, 1996, makes it a felony for any person who has been convicted of a misdemeanor or crime of domestic violence to ship, transport, possess or receive firearms or ammunition. Until September 30, 1996, military personnel were exempted from the provisions of the law. Inclusion of military personnel has made the services implement policies consistent with the Lautenberg amendment.

"The Army released a message in January 1998 that directed commanders to notify all soldiers that it is unlawful to possess firearms and ammunition if they have been convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence. Command-

Sen. Patty Murray of Washington State, with over 50 cosponsors, introduced S. Res. 264, to provide that the Senate designate October 8, 1998 as the Day of National Concern About Young People and Gun Violence, and authorize and request the President to issue a proclamation calling upon the school children of the United States to observe the day "with appropriate ceremonies and activities." It was referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Rep. Peter A. DeFazio of Oregon introduced H.R. 4441, to require firearms to be manufactured with child safety locks, H.R. 4442, to "better regulate" the transfer of firearms at gun shows, H.R. 4443, to provide for the automatic revocation of the license of any licensed firearms dealer who willfully sells a firearm to a minor, and H.R. 4444, "to prevent children from injuring themselves and others with firearms." Reps. Earl Blumenauer, Elizabeth Furse, Darlene Hooley, all of Oregon, are original cosponsors. The four measures were referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

In Kentucky, it became legal as of July for Kentucky ministers and church officials to carry handguns inside houses of worship as long as they have a permit to carry concealed.

The change came through an amendment passed this year by the Kentucky General Assembly.

A law enacted in 1996 authorized state residents with CCW permits to carry concealed weapons but specifically banned weapons from a number of places, including schools, government buildings and houses of worship. There were some exceptions, such as judges in their courtrooms and legislators at work.

The Rev. Willie Ramsey of the Somerset Church of Christ campaigned to extend the exception to men and women of the cloth and to other church officers.

"It's a matter of equal rights and equal protection under this gun law,"

BUMPER STICKERS

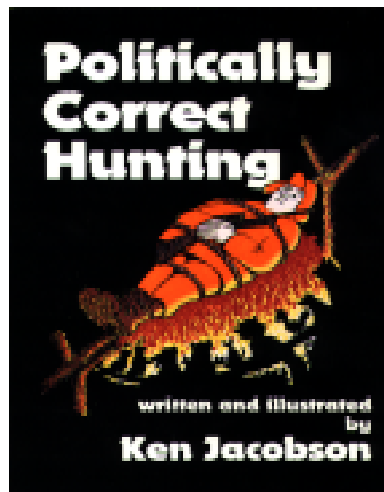
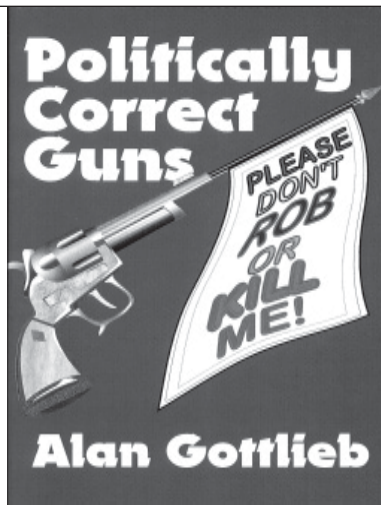
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