



In-Gauge of Polk County, Inc.



A NRA affiliated non-profit organization for the preservation and promotion of the shooting sports through firearms training and safety education.



May 2017

NEWSLETTER



KENTUCKY DERBY 143



Trump first president since Reagan to address NRA convention

04/26/17

Gun rights activists rallied to candidate Donald Trump in ways unprecedented in modern politics, and as president Mr. Trump is about to repay them with a personal speech this week at the National Rifle Association's annual convention.



He becomes the first sitting president to appear since Ronald Reagan, and Second Amendment advocates say they are likely to give him a hero's welcome, praising the change in attitude at the top of the administration, the Supreme Court pick of Justice Neil Gorsuch and other moves.

Continued Page 3

RETURN OF THE NRA'S BASICS OF PISTOL SHOOTING Instructor Led Classes

After a nearly one year hiatus, the National Rifle Association's Training Department realized the error of their ways.

In February of 2016, the NRA discontinued the traditional classroom method of teaching basic pistol shooting and made the only meanings of acquiring such training was through e-learning. The NRA's computer access "blended learning" program.

Following a fury of outrage from NRA instructors, who early-on recognized the deficiencies of the program, the NRA re-instated the decades old method of firearms instruction.

On April 4th of this year, the NRA re-launched the classic BASICS OF PISTOL SHOOTING COURSE with only a few minor administrative changes.

The "blended learning" e-learning program still exists and is an option for basic pistol instruction.

With the return of the traditional classroom teaching method, the new hardcover edition of the BASICS OF PISTOL SHOOTING textbook is once again available to the public.



Remember - our fallen heroes. They are the reason that we are free.

Meeting May 9th

Location

**150 Southeast Plaza Road
Winter Haven**

(One block south of Cypress Gardens Blvd., across the street from Publix, next to Papa John's Pizza)

General Meeting: 7:00 pm

Guest Speaker

**State Representative
Sam Killebrew**



Topic:

**2017 Gun Legislation
In Tallahassee**

**What passed
What didn't
and why and how.**

Firearms Purchases Still Trending Up

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 2017

We've covered – and debunked – the claims that firearms sales are significantly declining under the Trump Administration. The latest FBI report on NICS checks for March 2017 should help put any lingering claims about the "Trump Slump" to bed.

The total number of NICS checks, nationwide, is up about 9% from February 2017 which was itself a nearly 10% increase over January 2017. NICS checks aren't a direct proxy for firearms sales – not every check is related to a sale, a single check can be used to purchase more than one firearm in a single transaction, not all sales are completed even after an approved NICS, etc. – but the National Shooting Sports Foundation proposed an interesting way to improve the proxy. They devise the total number of NICS checks by removing those explicitly for permit or permit rechecks. While this will still not capture all firearms purchases (since some locales require a permit to purchase and so run a background check for the permit itself instead of at the point of sale), this calculation does likely get us closer to the number of firearms sold per month.

March 2017 is number 10 in the total number of checks since January 2008 and cracks the top 20 for estimated sales (number 17, to be exact). Just over 1.35 million firearms were sold in March 2017 according to this estimate.

Continued →

Surprisingly, not all firearms related businesses support the NRA.

Support those businesses in Polk County that support the NRA. If you do frequent a business that is not a member of the NRA "Business Alliance," ask them why. Then sign them up as an In-Gauge "corporate member." In-Gauge of Polk County is the NRA resource locally.

Brian's Outdoor World, Inc.
16200 Hwy 27
Lake Wales, FL 33859
Business Type: Firearm Dealer

Tim's Gun and Range
3761 Recker Hwy
Winter Haven, FL 33880
Business Type: Ranges

MC's Gunsmithing
110 North Seminole Ave.
Fort Meade, FL 33841
Business Type: Gunsmith

Derringer Firearms
1431 E. Gary Road
Lakeland, FL 33801
Business Type: Firearm Retailer

Dragon Fire Armory
4198 Dundee Rd
Winter Haven, FL 33884
Business Type: Firearm Dealer

Vets Surplus, Inc.
819 N. Florida Avenue
Lakeland, FL 33801
Business Type: Firearm Accessories

Guns Galore, Inc.
2440-2442 U.S. Hwy. 92 East
Lakeland, FL 33801
Business Type: Firearm Dealer

Stay alert for more information regarding . . .



**It is more than insurance.
Information can be found in your May NRA magazine.**

Monthly Meeting

The Club meets the **2nd Tuesday** of every month.
Attendance is for members only.
Two, first-time, guests per member, per meeting, welcomed.

Firearms Purchases Still Trending Up

Continued

The well-covered theory seemed to be that purchases would subside once the "threat" of Obama and Clinton policies were exhausted.

The numbers tell a different story. Using the estimated sales calculation, the number of purchases has increased in each month of 2017. Actually, the average number of purchases in the first 3 months of 2017 is just 1% lower than the average of August through October 2016 (excluding the typically high sales month of December and November to prevent any electoral uncertainty from skewing our conclusion).

While we don't have data on when purchasers decided to make a purchase, a reasonable assumption would be that the increase in late 2016 could be attributed to a desire to complete a planned purchase sooner to avoid the worst possible outcome of the election. The increase in sales-related NICS checks each month of 2017 suggests that fear of anti-gun policies isn't the driving force behind firearms purchases but perhaps simply a factor in the decision on when to purchase.

Or, put another way, Americans' commitment to liberty, tradition, and self-defense isn't dictated by political developments.

- END -



Trump at the NRA convention

Continued from 1



“If I had to grade him based upon everything that’s on his plate that he has to deal with, I’d have to give him an A,” said Alan Gottlieb, chairman of the Citizens Committee for the Right to Keep and Bear Arms.

“There’s no doubt that he calmed the fears of gun owners around the country that the federal government [will] be used as a tool to take their constitutionally protected rights away. I mean, there’s no two ways about that.”

The NRA, in somewhat of a surprise move, endorsed Mr. Trump at its convention last year — months before he formally accepted the Republican presidential nomination. The group was one of Mr. Trump’s largest outside backers in terms of TV air support and advocacy.

It marked a stunning turnaround for Mr. Trump, who in 2000 said he supported stricter firearms controls, then turned into one of the fiercest opponents of those controls as a presidential candidate.

“This president ran as the most pro-Second Amendment, pro-individual freedom candidate in the history of the country, and if you look at how he’s governed over the first 100 days, he’s arguably been the most effective and most successful in the first hundred days of any presidency,” Chris Cox, the head of the NRA’s lobbying arm, said in a recent appearance on Fox News.

5 reasons to support National Reciprocity

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2017

This seems like it would be obvious. Sadly, it’s not. The Supreme Court affirmed in 2008 that Americans have a constitutionally-protected individual Right to Keep and Bear Arms for self-defense. What’s more, no state can deny a Constitutional right. All national reciprocity means is that state governments must respect non-residents’ right to carry a firearm for self-defense to the same degree as residents of the state. And despite rumors to the contrary, national reciprocity legislation would not dictate to states how and where residents could carry concealed. Non-residents would also have to abide by state regulations governing behavior and places of carry.

2. You don’t want to be an accidental criminal.

Ever of heard of Brian Fletcher? How about Raymond Hughes and Meredith Graves? Each one of them has something in common: They are concealed carriers-turned-accidental criminals because they carried their legally-owned firearms into a state without reciprocity.

Brian Fletcher was a utility repairman who traveled from North Carolina to New Jersey with his legally-owned firearm to do disaster relief work. After volunteering the information about his gun to a police officer in New Jersey, he was arrested and subsequently faced five years in prison.

Raymond Hughes, a corrections officer, was simply traveling through New Jersey when a drunk driver sent him to the emergency room. He had his legally-owned firearm in the car, but because New Jersey doesn’t recognize non-resident carry permits, Hughes was charged with a Class 2 felony.

A similar story happened to Meredith Graves. A registered nurse and concealed carrier, Graves left her handgun in her purse while visiting the 9/11 memorial. When she left New York, she left with a misdemeanor weapons charge added to her record.

These are only a few stores, but they represent many, many instances of law-abiding gun owners getting caught up in the confusing patchwork of reciprocity laws we currently have in the United States.

- END -

Continued Page 5

May 2017 Club Training Calendar

MAY 2017						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6  DEFENSIVE PISTOL 9:00 AM
7 DEFENSIVE PISTOL Range Training 1:00 PM	8	9 MEETING Rep. Killebrew	10	11	12	13  CCW 101 9:00 AM
14 	15	16	17  CCW 101 9:00 AM	18	19	20
21	22  CCW 101 9:00 AM	23	24	25	26	27  CCW 101 9:00 AM
28	29  MEMORIAL DAY	30	31			

Alabama Senate votes to allow concealed carry without permit

The Associated Press

The Alabama Senate has voted to allow people to carry a concealed handgun without a getting a permit.

Senators approved the bill on a 25-8 vote Tuesday. It now moves to the Alabama House of Representatives.

The bill has been heavily criticized by some law enforcement officers who say the permits are needed for public safety. Republican Sen. Gerald Allen of Tuscaloosa, the bill's sponsor, said that people shouldn't have to pay to exercise their Second Amendment rights.

According to the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence, 11 states allow concealed carry without a permit. Most of those states still issue concealed weapon permits, as would Alabama, for people who may want them to carry in other states.

Democrats accused Republicans of trying to "rebrand" their party after scandals. - END -

Man charged with killing diaper thief

April 6, 2017

A 51-year-old Walmart customer who shot and killed a suspected diaper thief at a Pine Hills Walmart has been charged in the shooting, deputies said.

Lonnie Leonard was arrested on charges of manslaughter, aggravated battery, and **carrying a concealed weapon** Wednesday night.

Investigators with the Orange County Sheriff's Office recommended that Leonard be charged in connection with the Feb. 4 shooting. The State Attorney's office issued a warrant for his arrest Wednesday.

Arthur Adams, 19, died after being shot by Leonard in the store parking lot. Investigators said Adams and another man were stealing two carts of diapers when a store employee confronted them in the parking lot.

Leonard noticed what was happening and got involved. Leonard told authorities that Adams reached for something, which made the him feel threatened. Leonard then pulled out a gun and fired several shots, according to authorities. - END -

5 reasons

Continued from 3

3. Concealed carry permit holders are among the most law-abiding citizens in the country.

Yes, it's true. A 2014 study from the Crime Prevention Research Center (CPRC) showed that roughly 11 million Americans have concealed carry permits, up from an estimated 8 million in 2011. Today, the number is closer to 15 million. The CPRC also examined permit holders in Florida and Texas. Between 2008 and 2014, Florida had an average of 875,000 active permit holders. Its permit revocation rate during those years (i.e., the rate of concealed carriers who had their permits revoked due to firearm-related offenses) was a staggering...wait for it...0.00007%.

The rate of concealed carriers convicted of crimes was similarly low in Texas, a state that had 584,850 active permit holders in 2012. Of those, only 0.021% were convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony.

The bottom line? Concealed carry permit holders have overwhelmingly proven to be responsible and law-abiding. And they're certainly not out there turning American communities into the Wild, Wild West.

4. Reciprocity laws can change frequently with little notice...

Which leads us back to the part about otherwise law-abiding gun owners becoming accidental criminals. When laws change with little public notice, it's difficult to know when or how you'd run afoul of them.

It does happen: In 2012 for example, the state of Delaware, under the direction of then-attorney general Beau Biden, dropped reciprocity with concealed carriers from Virginia. In 2015, Virginia Attorney General Mark Herring announced his state would stop recognizing permits from 25(!) other states.

And while it is up to each individual gun owner to stay on top of state gun laws, if you've been legally carrying your concealed handgun from Virginia to Delaware for 10 years and didn't know about changes in reciprocity coming down the pipeline, it's understandable that you'd make that additional trip without checking.

Continued →

5 reasons

Continued

Again: it's easy for well-intentioned people to get caught up in legal troubles when we're talking about a patchwork of state laws that can change with little notice.

5. Law-abiding concealed carriers can protect YOU in all 50 states.

As much as gun control advocates like to argue that there's no such thing as a "good guy with a gun," mountains of evidence say otherwise.

Just last June, headlines swept the nation of a concealed carrier who stopped a mass shooter outside a nightclub in South Carolina, potentially saving dozens of lives. And who could forget the Minnesota mall stabbing spree last September? He too, was stopped by a law-abiding concealed carrier.

Then in January, when two armed men tried to rob a jewelry store in a mall in San Antonio, Texas, they were stopped by concealed carrier. The armed men had already shot and killed an innocent bystander. Who knows what would have happened if the gun owner hadn't stepped in?

These are just a few stories, but there are many more out there. The truth is responsible, law-abiding concealed carriers are an added layer of protection for ALL of us. Unfortunately, too many states make it difficult or impossible for gun owners to carry concealed — let alone across state lines. In this uncertain world, the last thing states should do is disarm law-abiding gun owners. That doesn't make anyone safer. But you know what will? Empowering gun owners with the freedom to exercise their right to defend their life and the lives of those around them — no matter what state they're in.

- END -



Everytown - gun control group - vows \$25M to fight 'concealed carry'

By EDWARD-ISAAC DOVERE 04/10/17

Preparing for life with Donald Trump as president and Republican majorities in Congress, Michael Bloomberg's gun control group is threatening to spend more than \$25 million in 2018 races.

Everytown for Gun Safety, founded and funded by the billionaire former New York City mayor, is hiring several new top staffers and turning much of its attention to state legislatures, while moving to a defensive posture in Washington as it tries to stop what's known as "concealed carry reciprocity" from becoming law. That will include starting to score congressional votes, like the National Rifle Association does, to guide spending decisions more directly.

That measure would effectively loosen gun laws significantly by holding gun owners to the laws of their own state when carrying their weapons in other states, no matter how different the laws are in, for example, Texas versus New York.

A bill to legalize concealed carry reciprocity was introduced last month with the strong support of the NRA, and Trump said during his campaign that he supported it.

Everytown is brandishing its significant spending in the 2016 New Hampshire Senate race that former Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte lost narrowly — the group targeted her for voting against background checks in 2013 — as a warning to other senators up in 2018 and possibly 2020 as well.

"This is a line in the sand on this issue, there's no question about it. The NRA wants to normalize carrying guns in public. It's not where the American public is," said Everytown President John Feinblatt. "We're putting people on notice today that we're watching ... and that we expect to hold people accountable."

Between Everytown and other avenues that Bloomberg and gun control advocates used, Ayotte had roughly \$8 million spent against her.

Continued →

Everytown vows to fight

Continued

Bloomberg spent north of \$25 million counting money he put into Senate races and into four state ballot measures on gun control, three of which passed.

Brynne Craig, most recently Hillary Clinton's deputy director of state campaigns, is joining as Everytown's managing director of external affairs and civic engagement. Kirk Fordham, a former GOP congressional staffer and executive director of the LGBT advocacy group Gill Action Fund, will be the new managing director of partnerships and strategic planning. Matt McTighe, the former executive director of another LGBT group, Freedom for All Americans, will be the new chief operating officer.

And Eric Schultz will advise Everytown's communications and political strategy while continuing his role as a senior adviser to former President Barack Obama.

In addition to direct donations, Everytown is planning to activate its various networks to hound members at town halls on concealed carry reciprocity.

Americans for Responsible Solutions, founded by former Rep. Gabby Giffords and her husband, astronaut Mark Kelly, is also prioritizing the fight against legalizing concealed carry reciprocity. It's also pushing back on efforts to deregulate silencers and expand guns in schools, and coordinating in part with Everytown on those efforts.

Part of what they're facing, said ARS executive director Peter Ambler, is several Senate Democrats and Republicans who supported concealed carry reciprocity in previous Congresses when it was sure not to be signed by Obama. Now, Ambler said, those lawmakers don't actually want it to become law now that there's a president who would sign it.

"Consistency is a crucible for so many legislators, so we have to fight against that," Ambler said. "But we're making progress."

- END -

Training – a couple of chapters taken from the Defensive Pistol Course

How To Prepare For The Situation You Don't Anticipate

by Debbie Crews

There are over 14.5 million concealed carry holders in the United States. People of different genders, ethnicities, races and upbringing are carrying all around you. But how many of those individuals are truly prepared for an emergency situation? How many individuals would be able to keep calm and have a clear enough head to prevail?

You may never know when you are going to need to use your firearm for a defensive situation. You won't even know what the situation is going to be like. However, if the unimaginable happens it's critical that you are prepared and confident with yourself, and your skill set.

When in an extremely stressful situation, everything you've learned has the potential to be quickly forgotten. Because of this, it's important to create good habits with your firearm training to help avoid that from happening.

Training with a firearm should always be taken seriously and each step is just as important as the other. Here are some tips to help you assess your skills and help you to determine what additional training you may want to consider with a certified instructor.

Accept that it can happen

Most people cannot accept in time that an emergency is actually happening. This loses them valuable time and sets them back. You are already at a disadvantage because you are reacting to the situation at hand. Don't make it worse by convincing yourself it isn't happening.

Make a plan

Have a plan in place, a backup plan and a backup to your backup. Remember, you never know what exactly you're planning for.

Continued Page 8

National Concealed Carry Legislation Introduced In US Senate . . .

“Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017” in the Senate

MARCH 3, 2017

U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX) on Wednesday introduced his version of interstate carry legislation, titled the “Constitutional Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017.” Cornyn’s bill follows an earlier release in the House by Rep. Richard Hudson (R-NC) of the “Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017.”

Both bills seek to address the problem of law-abiding concealed carry permit holders having to negotiate a confusing maze of laws, reciprocity agreements, and recognition statutes when they travel out of state.

Currently, every state has a legal mechanism for the concealed carry of handguns for self-defense. And while reciprocity or recognition of non-resident permits is the norm between states, a handful of states that receive travelers from all over the country don't recognize permits from other states. This leads to otherwise law-abiding people getting crossways with the law, having their valuable firearms seized, and even facing felony prosecution and mandatory prison time.

Their only “crimes” were failing to realize that their permits would not protect them in certain states. Yet all of them were initially subject to felony prosecution and dragged through the courts at great financial and emotional expense. Some of them even ended up with criminal records that will follow them for the rest of their lives.

As with Hudson’s bill, Cornyn’s legislation would ensure that individuals with a valid concealed carry permit or who are otherwise legally eligible to carry in their states of residence could travel interstate while carrying a concealed handgun for self-defense or other lawful purposes. Rules of behavior for carrying firearms in each state would continue to apply.

This common-sense legislation is opposed by gun control advocates who wrongly insist that it will allow “dangerous” people to carry guns interstate and will undermine the laws of states that severely restrict concealed carry.

Continued Page 8

Preparing For The Situation You Don't Anticipate - Continued from page 8

Make a plan - continued

Plan for a home intruder, an attempted carjacking, someone trying to steal your purse or robbing you at gun point, and know what you would have to do differently in every situation. Understand all of these things can happen, and may be preventable with the right tools and a flexible plan.

When making your plan it's imperative to know your legal threshold, know when your attacker has crossed the line, leaving you no choice but to react. Understanding where the line is drawn can be your only determining factor in deciding to use your firearm or to choose another route, so be certain.

Awareness

The best way to win a confrontation is to avoid a confrontation.

ALWAYS be aware of your surroundings, whether you are at home or out in public. This way you not only are paying attention to the people around you but it also gives you the ability to take alternative actions so you're not being caught off guard.

For example, if you are being vigilant and can see your attacker approaching you can assess whether or not you have time to cross the street to safety, get inside that public store you saw five minutes ago or get into your car and drive away.

If you are distracted when suddenly you feel threatened, you will likely not be prepared to make your next move.

Tip: Do not use headphones with your face buried in your cell phone while walking around in public. This can inhibit you from taking in your surroundings. It is important to pay attention to all of your senses while traveling around, even in familiar areas.

Preparation

Practice for whatever your plan is, then practice for that to change.

Just to reiterate, you never know how a high pressure encounter will unfold; someone could attack you . . .

Continued Page 9

National Concealed Carry Legislation

Continued from page 7

Needless to say, no state has an interest in licensing dangerous people to carry firearms, and all have procedures to screen out ineligible applicants. The evidence shows, moreover, that concealed carry permittees are some of the most law-abiding citizens in the United States. And dangerous criminals have been unlawfully carrying guns wherever they go throughout the nation's history. All this legislation would do is put law-abiding people on equal footing with armed criminals while traveling from state to state.

It's easy to see what the real source of opposition is. The same states that severely restrict carry by their own residents also refuse to recognize non-resident permits. These include California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Rhode Island.

It's not that the permitting standards of these states are any more effective in screening out dangerous applicants. It's that concealed carry permits in those states are treated as the exclusive domain of the wealthy and the connected. The idea that "common" people would have the same rights simply offends the ruling elite's sense of entitlement.

A robust interstate carry regime would also show the residents of those states what the rest of the country has known for decades, which is that law-abiding people carrying concealed handguns do not cause the mayhem that gun control advocates pretend follow firearms wherever they go. In fact, life goes on as usual, just with more freedom and protection for the lawfully armed and more reason for the bad guys to think twice.

The NRA commends Sen. Cornyn for his leadership in this crucial effort and looks forward to the day when the Second Amendment right to bear arms applies to all Americans in every state of the nation.

- END -

Preparing For The Situation You Don't Anticipate - Continued from page 8

Preparation - continued

Practice for whatever your plan is, then practice for that to change.

. . . break into your house or could be trying to cause your family harm. Whatever the case, familiarize yourself with the plan and then practice for when that plan goes out the window.

Preparing for adrenaline can save your life one day. It is important to be able to process change effectively and calmly, all while knowing your limitations.

Here is one example of an exercise you can do:
When participating in this exercise make sure you are practicing in front of a mirror, with an unloaded firearm, in a room you never take ammunition into.

1. With your firearm on the table in front of you do 20+ jumping jacks, burpees or pushups.
2. Once activity is complete, draw your firearm from its holster.
3. Immediately try to work a dry fire with good sight alignment and good grip.
4. Analyze your trigger pull, sight alignment, stance, stability and grip.
5. Repeat.

If you only see a fraction of the front and rear sight, don't worry, it's supposed to look that way. This exercise is intended to **reveal your flash sight picture** giving you a baseline to work off so that you eventually are only looking at the front sight. This prepares you for a five to seven yard defensive situation.

Tip: Try these workouts made for the gun range after you have assessed your ability with the dry fire exercise.

Tip II: Really test your skills and take your training to the next level with 3-Gun practice.

Preparing For The Situation You Don't Anticipate - Continued

Visualization

Can you force the unimaginable to become imaginable?

It is nearly impossible to defensively train with your firearm unless you're visualizing.

Practice with a particular place in mind, picture your high pressure or emergency encounter and draw it all out in your head. Just hitting the paper target does not suffice when preparing for emergency situations.


In emergency situations you are often forced to choose between fight or flight. By really visualizing while you're training you can save yourself from going into "flight mode" if you actually need to get into a combative situation in order to save your life.

Your body may not go where your mind has never been. If you don't practice for using your gun defensively by training your mind to figure out what you're going to do when everything goes wrong, what your other options are when all of your initial options go out of the window and how you're going to react, you will get flustered.

Tip: While at the range set the scene by asking yourselves questions similar to these:

1. Where are you?
2. Are you walking down the street?
3. Are you in your back yard?
4. Are you answering your door?
5. Did you get startled at 3 a.m.?
6. Where is your attacker coming from?
7. Is the intruder coming up your stairs in the dark?
8. Is someone running across the street at you with a baseball bat in their hand?
9. Is it raining? Is there bad visibility?
10. Is your attacker armed? ARE YOU SURE?

Continued Page 10

Continued 

Preparing For The Situation You Don't Anticipate — *Continued from page 9 column 2*

Keep up on skills and continue to build on them

Perfect practice makes perfect. Not only will this make you well practiced, but skilled in your practice.

In order to continue growing your confidence in your personal defense tactics, practice drawing from various different holsters or concealed carry wear.

This is a critical step. Let's say you're wearing a dress, your holster draw will be completely different from someone who is wearing a jacket and pants. Same thing goes for individuals who concealed carry in a purse or briefcase, practice your draw at the range. It may be more difficult than you think so practice with an unloaded firearm and ask for guidance from an NRA Certified Instructor first.

Make sure you are consistent in training with proper shooting skills and defensive accuracy. In doing so, practice shooting at center mass targets instead of trying to drill the bullseye targets. This gives a more realistic target size.

Tip I: Get with an NRA Certified Instructor to improve your skills and get advice on how to improve.

Tip II: Practice techniques you hope you never have to use regularly at the gun range. For those with limited time, a MINIMUM of one time a month will do the trick.

= = = - END - = = = =

Editorial Note:

The information above comes directly from the NRA's DEFENSIVE PISTOL, PERSONAL PROTECTION OUTSIDE THE HOME and the PERSONAL PROTECTION IN THE HOME courses.

Although there are similarities in the NRA DEFENSIVE PISTOL course and the self-administered WINCHESTER CHALLENGE PROGRAM, with the award of similar patches, **the two courses are not the same.** The WINCHESTER CHALLENGE PROGRAM is a self-administered shooter improvement program conducted **without** NRA instructor supervision, other than the approval of target, shot placement results. The WINCHESTER CHALLENGE PROGRAM **does not** award official, restricted access, serial numbered, National Rifle Association nationally recognized certificates of training.

OOOOPS !!!

One moment of lapse judgment or inattentiveness can have devastating effects . . .

NRA employee accidentally shoots himself at headquarters: report

BY JOHN BOWDEN - 04/07/17

Police said Friday that one person had been injured during a firearms safety course at the National Rifle Association's (NRA) headquarters after an employee's pistol discharged while he holstered it, NBC4 reported.

The employee, described as a 46-year-old man, suffered a minor wound to his lower body and was taken to the hospital, according to the report. The accidental shooting happened Thursday during a firearms training at the organization's National Firearms Museum in Fairfax, Va.

Police working with the local attorney's office said they don't expect any charges to be filed.

- END -

Homeowner fatally shoots burglar at his Little River home

Miami, FL - Apr 26, 2017

A homeowner told investigators Wednesday that he shot a man who had broken into his Little River home, according to police.

The fatal shooting happened just after noon Wednesday in the 7000 block of Northwest Fifth Place.

Christopher Bess, a Miami police spokesman, said the man told police his home was being burglarized so he opened fire.

The possible burglar was fatally wounded, police said.

A woman who identified herself as living with the homeowner told WSVN7 that he was inside the home with his 3-year-old son, who alerted him to the burglar.

- END -

Georgia welcomes NRA, stands with its ideals

State Rep. Vernon Jones - April 27, 2017

As Americans across the country celebrate a rebirth of freedom, it is an honor to welcome the members of the National Rifle Association to Atlanta for their 146th annual celebration of our Second Amendment freedoms.

The five million members of the NRA are dedicated to promoting, preserving, and protecting our freedom. All across the country, lawmakers at every level of government — from state houses to the halls of Congress — are passing new laws giving law-abiding citizens greater ability to protect and defend themselves.

In Congress, lawmakers are moving forward with a bill that would put an end to the confusing patchwork of concealed carry laws across the country. Currently concealed carry permit holders are in constant jeopardy of running afoul of another state's laws when they travel with their firearm for self-protection. The **Concealed Carry Reciprocity Act of 2017** would require states to recognize the concealed carry permits of other states, similar to how marriage licenses are recognized. We are a very mobile society and threats to our personal safety don't end at the state line.

While awaiting reform at the federal level, we in Georgia are going ahead and expanding state-to-state recognition agreements. Earlier this month here in Georgia, Gov. Nathan Deal signed into law a measure recognizing the concealed carry permits of Virginians who travel to Georgia. Georgia now recognizes concealed carry permits from 32 states. Georgia lawmakers have sent two other pro-Second Amendment bills to Gov. Deal, including House Bill 280 that would give law-abiding, concealed carry permit holders the ability protect themselves on our state college campuses.

Twelve states now have Constitutional Carry laws and many more states are considering it. Constitutional Carry, or permit-less carry, simply allows a person who is otherwise legally able to possess and carry a firearm to do so in a discreet, concealed manner. Many states allow law-abiding gun owners to openly carry a handgun without a government permit. Constitutional Carry gives them the flexibility to put a coat or jacket on over their gun, or place it in a purse for convenience.

Continued →

Georgia welcomes NRA

Continued

For the first time since Ronald Reagan, a sitting U.S. President will address the National Rifle Association's Annual Meeting. It is a tremendous honor for Atlanta to welcome Donald Trump to our city. President Trump will speak at the NRA Institute for Legislative Action Leadership Forum on Friday, along with Wayne LaPierre and NRA chief political strategist Chris W. Cox. They will be joined by many federal, state and local elected officials.

I personally want to welcome the 70,000 visitors expected for the NRA's Annual Meeting. This is a time for all of us to come together to celebrate our nation's rebirth of freedom. People will be coming from every city, state and hamlet in the United States. They will come with one anthem, "We are the NRA!"

- END -

Armed neighbors detain burglar

Ocala, FL - Apr 26, 2017

A Dunnellon man this week kicked open the back door of a woman's home, returned hours later to apologize but was then detained at gunpoint by neighbors, according to the Marion County Sheriff's Office.

On Monday night, deputies were called to the scene, where homeowner Connie Bryant said she was asleep when she heard loud banging coming from outside the home. When she turned on the porch light, she saw a man banging on her back door with his fists and screaming "I'm going to get you (expletive)."

Bryant said she ran to the front door so she could leave and then heard the burglar break through the back door. The woman fled to her neighbor's home.

When Bryant told the neighbor what happened, he grabbed his gun and went to her residence. He said he saw a shirtless man wearing white or khaki pants near the back porch. He said the intruder then crashed through the Bryant's wooden gate, and the neighbor fired a shot in the air.

Bryant told the Star-Banner that hearing that door being kicked in was "the most terror I've ever felt in my life."

- END -

NRA BOOSTS NATIONAL CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY PUSH

BY MICHELE GORMAN - 4/19/17

The National Rifle Association is intensifying its push for national concealed carry reciprocity—which President Donald Trump publicly has supported—as measures to allow residents to carry concealed weapons without permits pass through several state legislatures across the country.

National reciprocity has long been a priority for the NRA, which says the current system is confusing to law-abiding gun owners who travel with their firearms into states that don't recognize their concealed carry permits. All states and Washington, D.C., allow concealed carry in some form; a dozen states currently don't require a state government permit.

Some gun owners could face arrest for carrying firearms in 10 "less-free" states, the NRA chief lobbyist, Chris Cox, says in a new ad, referring to California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Oregon and Rhode Island.

"If 10 states made it a felony to read The New York Times, the media would run the story 24/7 until Congress fixed the assault on the First Amendment," Cox says in the 60-second ad, posted to the internet on Tuesday. "But when 10 states criminalize the Second Amendment, the media says nothing."

He adds, "When states can deny one constitutional freedom, they can criminalize the entire Bill of Rights."

Since the new Congress convened at the beginning of January, federal lawmakers in both the House and Senate have introduced bills pushing for national reciprocity. Lawmakers in previous congresses have introduced similar measures, but those failed to pass through committee.

Meanwhile, similar legislation to allow permitless carry (also known as constitutional carry) is now making its way through a number of state legislatures. The Texas House and Alabama Senate are two of the most recent legislatures this week to pass permitless carry measures that would eliminate the requirement to obtain a permit in order to lawfully carry.

Continued →

NRA PUSHES FOR CONCEALED CARRY RECIPROCITY

Continued

Proponents of national reciprocity say it would make concealed carry permits more like driver's licenses, while critics argue it would enable the least restrictive requirements to apply to the entire country, thus undercutting the most stringent laws in some states. Everytown for Gun Safety, which former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg established in 2014 to counter the NRA, has vowed to fight national reciprocity, as well as pro-gun candidates in the 2018 midterm elections.

The president and the NRA appear to have a comfortable relationship. Just this week, the NRA announced that Trump will address its annual leadership forum on April 28, making him the first sitting president to do so since Ronald Reagan in 1983. Before the election, the NRA spent more than \$30 million to bolster Trump's presidential campaign. After his win, NRA Executive Vice President Wayne LaPierre joined Trump to plan for the nomination of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court.

- END -

Woman feared 'for her life' when she shot burglar

Apr 22, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, OH — An Ohio woman said she was "fearing for her life" when she shot an intruder who tackled her after she discovered him in the garage of her parents' south Bloomington home early Friday morning.

"Anything could have happened by just the way he lunged at me, and I had the gun in his face and told him not to come out because I would shoot," said Kim Sinnott of Hamilton, Ohio. "He probably thought I wouldn't shoot."

"He grabbed me and pulled me down and that's when I shot (him), and he ran off that way," she said, pointing to the 900 block of Clayton Street where police apprehended the suspect.

"When he grabbed me and pulled me down I was fearing for my life," said Sinnott. "I shot him just for him to let me go. I don't know if it was in the leg or in the foot. I was scared to death."

- END -