

# G.C.L.A. NEWS

The Newsletter of the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance April - June 2016

# **President's Corner**

The annual Gun Rights Rally in the Missouri Capitol rotunda was a marked success. There were several attendees from across the state. The many speakers were inspiring. The GCLA thanks all who took the time to attend the event as well as speaking to their representatives and senators. Don't forget that writing and letting them know how important our guns rights are will make a difference.

This is a big election year for Missouri. The primary is coming up with several candidates seeking office. It is very important to find out how they view our gun rights. GCLA has invited candidates to speak at our monthly members' meetings (which are open to the public). Plan to attend and ask questions, get to know what the candidates think.

The city of St. Louis is a one-party town, so the primary is the election.

Sheriff Murphy is retiring. He was a good man in taking care of concealed carry permits and signing off on National Fire Arms (N.F.A.) items, silencers, full auto, short barrel rifle or short barrel shotguns. I've talked to candidate for Sheriff, Vernon Betts, to find out his position on our gun rights and continuing to be positive on gun policy issues. He assured me he would and is a strong supporter of St. Louis City residents' gun rights.

Not like St. Louis Mayor Slay and his Police Chief Sam Dotson who are members of Michael Bloomberg's "Mayors Against Guns" club.

Make sure that you and everyone you know is registered to vote. Finally, GO VOTE YOUR RIGHTS .

Have fun! Get active! Steve Marx President, GCLA

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### **GCLA's Purpose**

GCLA's purpose is to preserve and protect the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America by:

- Monitoring and acting on pending legislation at the local, state, and federal level.
- Encouraging voter registration and participation in the political process.
- Promoting public and personal safety, education and training, and the defense of the nation.

GCLA holds a monthly members' meeting which often features a guest speaker, the fielding of open questions, sharing of news and information, and intelligent discussion.

P.O. Box 440280 St. Louis, MO 63144 314-385-4867 www.gclastl.org questions@gclastl.org

> Steve Marx President

Harry Smelcer Vice President

> John Cuba Secretary

Gene Dultz Treasurer

Gene Dultz Newsletter Chairman

Member's meetings are on the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00PM at the American Legion Post (Goff Moll) #101 2721 Collier Ave. Brentwood, MO just west of the Schnucks Store at the intersection of Brentwood Blvd and Manchester Rd. (see map on page 7)

#### Ryan, Top Republicans Urge Caution On Post-Orlando Gun Control Measures

House Speaker Paul Ryan and other top Republicans pushed back on growing calls from Democrats to ban people on terror watch lists from buying guns, even as Donald Trump and other GOP figures opened the door to discussing it.

Calls for action have increased in the wake of the terror massacre at Pulse nightclub in Orlando that left 50 people, including the gunman, dead. The gunman had been on a watch list for 10 months before being removed.

"We want to make sure that something like this doesn't happen again. Everybody wants that," Ryan told reporters. "But as we look at how to proceed, we also want to make sure that we're not infringing upon people's legitimate constitutional rights. That's important."

Ryan's comments come a day after Trump indicated potential support for new gun laws in this area.

"I will be meeting with the N.R.A., who has endorsed me, about not allowing people on the terrorist watch list, or the nofly list, to buy guns," the presumptive GOP presidential nominee tweeted.

Whether Trump would support an outright ban or just a delay for gun sales for those on watch lists is not clear.

That is the sticking point right now in the Senate.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and other Democrats are pushing a measure to ban those on no-fly lists from purchasing weapons.

But Republicans worry about such a measure infringing on gun rights for someone wrongly included on such a list.

Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, has a dueling measure to delay a gun sale for 72 hours, but require prosecutors to go to court to show probable cause if they want to block the sale permanently.

Cornyn's bill has been backed by the NRA.

Meanwhile, Republican Sens. Charles Grassley, of Iowa, and Ted Cruz, of Texas, have a measure that would notify law enforcement if anyone investigated for terrorism in the last five years tries to buy a gun -- in addition to making other changes.

Democrats drew more attention to their version of the legislation as Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., held the floor along with colleagues in a nearly 15-hour filibuster that lasted into the early hours of the morning.

"We can't just wait, we have to make something happen," said Sen. Cory Booker, D-N.J., at an emotional news conference where Democrats joined family members of people killed in the nation's recent mass shootings. "These are people bound by brutality, and their numbers are growing."

But Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., blasted

Murphy's filibuster as a "campaign talk-a-thon" that did nothing but delay potential votes.

Cruz also slammed Democrats, saying on the Senate floor the Democrat effort was nothing more than a political distraction that avoided the real issues.

"I find it ridiculous that in response to an ISIS terror attack, the Democrats go on high dudgeon that we've got to restrict the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding citizens," Cruz said. "This is not a gun control issue, this is a terrorism issue."

Sen. Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., called Cornyn's bill a "wolf in sheep's clothing" and said it would allow "every terrorist to get a gun." Clinton's spokesman, Brian Fallon, called Cornyn's bill a "smokescreen."

Cornyn responded angrily.

"That's an incredibly ignorant thing to say," Cornyn said. "That anybody can be denied their constitutional rights without due process of law and without the government coming forward and establishing probable cause, that's simply un-American."

A possible bipartisan compromise was proposed by Sen. Pat Toomey, R-Pa. Toomey said his bill would prevent potential terrorists from getting a gun, while providing an extra layer of due process that the Democratic bill lacks.

"I have drafted legislation that takes the best features from both of the previous proposals, effectively preventing terrorists from being able to purchase guns, while also safeguarding the rights of innocent Americans who are mistakenly put on the list," Toomey said.

Meanwhile, the Justice Department backed a ban on gun sales to those on watch lists.

"The amendment gives the Justice Department an important additional tool to prevent the sale of guns to suspected terrorists by licensed firearms dealers while ensuring protection of the department's operational and investigative sensitivities," a DOJ official said in a statement.

The DOJ's stance is a departure from past warnings from FBI Director James Comey, who reportedly has said a ban could alert terrorists they are being investigated.

Ryan cited those remarks when talking to reporters.

"As the FBI director just told us the other day, and I think he said this publicly, if we do this wrong, like the president is proposing, we can actually blow our ongoing terrorist investigations. So, we want to get this right, so that we don't undermine terrorist investigations," Ryan said .

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#### 9th Circuit Federal Appeals Court Rules Americans Don't Have Right to Concealed Carry

In a dubious, and ground breaking, decision an 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled on 6/9/16 that individuals do not have a Second Amendment right to carry concealed weapons in public.

9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled on the Edward Peruta v. County of San Diego case which revolved around California's concealed carry laws. California state law requires applicants to show "good cause," such as a fear of personal safety, in order to to carry a concealed firearm. The plaintiff Edward Peruta challenged the "good cause" stipulation on the grounds that carrying a firearm for self defense was protected under the 2nd Amendment.

Francisco did not agree, and they ruled 7-4 to uphold the law requiring "good cause". In an almost shocking majority opinion the court said that "The right of a member of the general public to carry a concealed firearm in public is not, and never has been, protected by the Second Amendment. Therefore, because the Second Amendment does not protect in any degree the right to carry concealed firearms in public, any prohibition or restriction a state may choose to impose on concealed carry".

This decision seems to contradict previous supreme court rulings and it will most likely be challenged and settled by a new Supreme Court ruling.

However, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San

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# Federal Judge Blocks 'Good Reason' Requirement of D.C Carry Law

A federal judge has ruled that the requirement to show a "good reason" to obtain a carry permit in Washington, D.C. "likely places an unconstitutional burden" on the right to carry firearms for self-defense outside the home, and ordered the District's police department to stop requiring applicants to provide that information, according to the Washington Times and other publications.

Writing in a 46-page opinion, U.S. District Judge Richard J. Leon noted, "In Heller, the Supreme Court's unequivocally asserted that 'the enshrinement of Constitutional rights necessarily takes certain policy choices off the table.' The District's understandable, but overly zealous, desire to restrict the right to carry in public a firearm for self-defense to the smallest possible number of law-abiding, responsible citizens is exactly the type of policy choice the Justices had in mind."

"Because the right to bear arms includes the right to carry firearms for self-defense both in and outside the home, I find that the District's 'good reason' requirement likely places an unconstitutional burden on this right."

The case, brought against the District by Matthew Grace and a gay gun rights organization, the Pink Pistols, is the second challenge to the District's restrictive carry law. The laswuit is supported financially by the National Rifle Association. Another lawsuit, brought by the Second Amendment Foundation, is currently on appeal since a different judge, Colleen Kollar-Kotelly, ruled in favor of the city earlier this year. That case is known as Wrenn v. District of Columbia.

# Supreme Court Leaves State Assault Weapons Bans in Place

The Supreme Court has rejected challenges to assault weapons bans in Connecticut and New York, in the aftermath of the shooting attack on a gay nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that left 50 people dead.

The justices on June 20th left in place a lower court ruling that upheld laws that were passed in response to another mass shooting involving a semi-automatic weapon, the elementary school attack in Newtown, Connecticut.

The Supreme Court has repeatedly turned away challenges to gun restrictions since two landmark decisions that spelled out the right to a handgun to defend one's own home.

In December, less than a month after a mass shooting in San Bernardino, California, Justices Clarence Thomas and Antonin Scalia dissented when the court refused to hear an appeal to overturn a Chicago suburb's ban on assault weapons. Scalia died in February.

Seven states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws banning assault weapons. The others are California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts and New Jersey, according to the Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence. In addition, Minnesota and Virginia regulate assault weapons, the center said.

Connecticut and New York enacted bans on assault weapons and large-capacity magazines in response to the December 2012 massacre of 20 children and six educators at the Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut. The gunman, Adam Lanza, shot and killed his mother before driving to the school where he gunned down the victims with a Bushmaster AR-15 rifle. Lanza then killed himself.

In Orlando, gunman Omar Mateen used a Sig Sauer MCX semi-automatic rifle and a pistol during the attack at Pulse nightclub. Mateen was killed in a shootout with police after killing 49 others .

# **Candidates Speak at GCLA Meetings**

During election cycles GCLA has many candidates for Missouri State offices speak at the monthly GCLA Members' Meetings. The 2016 election cycle is no different.

John Brunner - candidate for Missouri Governor was the speaker on Tuesday March 1st, 2016.(Left below).

Rick Stream - candidate for State Senator - District 15 and Eric Greitens - candidate for Missouri Governor spoke at the meeting on Tuesday April 5th, 2016 (2nd & 3rd from left).

Mike Allen - candidate for Missouri State Representative District 100 and Dean Plocher - candidate for Missouri State Representative District 89 were at the Tuesday June 7th, 2016 meeting (4th & 5th from left below). GCLA will continue to have candidates for Missouri State offices speak at our monthly members' meetings. We have Peter Kinder Brunner - candidate for Missouri Governor and Kurt Schaefer - Candidate for Missouri Attorney General lined up to speak at our Tuesday July 5th meeting.

All of these candidates support our Second Amendment rights to keep and bear arms.

The Missouri Primary Election is August 2, 2016, the last day to register to vote in the Primary is July 6, 2016.

The General Election is November 8, 2016, the last day to register to vote in the General Election is October 12, 2016.

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# Mo. Lawmakers Pass Pro-Gun Bill at 11th hour

Missouri lawmakers concluded their annual session after sending Gov. Jay Nixon a bill that enacts a "stand-yourground" right and expands gun rights to allow Missourians to carry concealed weapons without a permit.

Under the measure, most people could carry concealed guns, even if they haven't gone through the training now required to get a permit. The legislation also expands the state's "castle doctrine" by allowing invited guests such as baby sitters to use deadly force against intruders. And it would create a "standyour-ground" right, meaning people would have no duty to retreat from danger in any place they are legally entitled to be present.

Republican supporters described it as a reasonable approach to personal safety, while many Democrats decried it.

The legislation passed the Republican-led Senate on a 24-8 party-line vote. The House then gave it final approval 114-36, with a little over an hour remaining before the session's mandatory end. The bill now goes to the governor's desk. If he

vetoes the measure, Republicans in the legislature will have a chance to override the veto in September.

Nixon isn't saying yet whether he'll veto the gun-rights expansion. He said Friday that he will give the measure a comprehensive review.

The National Rifle Association says 30 states have laws or court precedents stating people have no duty to retreat from a threat anywhere they are lawfully present. But Missouri's measure would make it the first new "stand-your-ground" state since 2011, according to both the NRA and the opposition group Everytown for Gun Safety.

Senators started the last day late, passed only a few other bills besides the gun legislation, and then adjourned for about an hour and 45 minutes before the mandatory quitting time.

Other measures that passed before the final day include a proposed photo identification requirement for voters.

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# **Drawing Winners**

The most recent GCLA drawing was held at our members' meeting on Tuesday May 3rd, 2016.

Devon Layer of St. Peters, MO was the winner of the first prize, a DPMS Panther Oracle AR-15, .223 Rem., flat top, (3) 30 and (2) 20 round magazines, hard case & cleaning kit.

The second prize, a Remington Adult R3200 Premium Electronic Earmuffs and Shooting Glasses Kit, was won by Sarah Becker of O'Fallon,MO.

The next GCLA drawing will be at our members' meeting on Tuesday November 1st, 2016. First prize is a Henry Golden Boy Lever Action 22 LR with 500 Rounds of Ammo and Hard Case. Second price is a Benchmade 3" Self-Folding Knife with Friends of NRA Logo on Blade. Tickets are available at the GCLA gun show table.

All current members of GCLA should have received their renewal letter in the mail. If you haven't done so already, please return the renewal form & your annual dues in the return envelope. Your membership is vital to the success of GCLA in the pursuit of our primary goal, fighting for your Second Amendment Rights.

GCLA Gun Show Schedule	
Show times are generally 9am To 4pm for Sat. And 9am to 3pm on Sun. When a show has a Friday date it will be open from 4pm to 8pm	
May 14,15 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville II. * May 21,22 Pacific Eagles Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific	
June 3-5 Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd. June 25,26 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville II. *	
July 9,10 St. Charles Convention Center July 23,24 Bass Pro Shops, 1365 South 5th Street, St. Charles **	
August 13,14 Cabela's, St. Louis Mills, Hazelwood ** August 19-21 The Heart of St. Charles, 1410 Fifth St. August 20,21 Bass Pro Shops, 1365 South 5th Street, St. Charles ** August 27,28 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville II. *	
September 16-18 Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd.	
October 1,2 Belle-Clair Expo Center, Belleville II. * October 8,9 Pacific Eagles Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific	
November 18-20 Machinist Hall, 12365 St. Charles Rock Rd.	
December 3,4 Pacific Eagles Hall, 707 Congress, Pacific	
* indicates GCLA will <b>not</b> have a table at this show ** indicates NRA Membership Recruiting table only	
Any Member Who Would Like To Work At A Gun Show Please Call: Don Childers 314-288-8881 –or– 636-677-6104 • • •	



## **Associate Membership**

GCLA will send a free annual Associate Membership including "GCLA NEWS" to any active duty service member from Missouri. Here is how this free annual membership works:

- Be full-time active military duty.
- Be a current or former Missouri resident and register Missouri as your state of residence.

- Be recommended by a current GCLA Regular Member, or request your free annual Associate Membership in writing. If you qualify or know of someone that qualifies please fill out an application from the back of the "GCLA NEWS".

Instead of a membership dues check please send a signed note or pledge that you/they are active duty military and a current or former Missouri resident & register Missouri as your/their state of residence.

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## Have you joined MSSA?

MSSA is the Missouri Sport Shooting Association. MSSA seeks to support and promote the shooting sports in Missouri, and to encourage participation. Are you participating?

See http://www.missourisportshooting.org

#### **MSSA Mission Statement**

The mission of the MSSA is to protect and preserve the shooting sports at the state level. MSSA will promote and improve the shooting sports by sponsoring marksmanship training and competitions throughout the state of Missouri.

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### GCLA is an NRA Recruiter

Don't forget that GCLA is also an NRA recruiter. Help your organization and renew your annual, two year or three year membership through GCLA. We can do the annual membership for a discounted rate and give you a new hat to boot.

If you are not an NRA member and you want to become one, we can also do that.

GCLA earns money through commissions for every new member and renewal application that we send in to the NRA. This is a good deal for both you and GCLA

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#### **GCLA-PAC**

Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance has a Political Action Committee. This PAC allows GCLA to support the Missouri candidates that believe in our gun rights. The PAC needs funding to be effective and we need to start preparing now for the 2016 elections.

#### Send donations to GCLA-PAC, P.O. Box 440280, St. Louis, MO 63144

NOTICE: All proceeds from our current Gun Drawing are going to the GCLA PAC. The prizes are: First prize is a Henry Golden Boy Lever Action 22 LR with 500 Rounds of Ammo and Hard Case. Second prize is a Benchmade 3" Self-Folding Knife with Friends of NRA Logo on Blade. The drawing is scheduled to be held at our members' meeting on Tuesday November 1st, 2016.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP	- cut or tear here Date:
GATEWAY CIVIL LIBERTIES ALLIANCE P.O. Box 440280 Brentwood, MO 63144	
Name:	Day Phone:
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City/State:	Mobile Phone:
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Membership Dues are \$24.00 per cale	ndar year (first year can be pro-rated).
Membership: \$24.00 [ ] Donation: \$ [ ]	
NRA Member: Y / N If an NRA annua	l member, your expiration date: / / .
MSSA Member: Y / N	Sponsor (optional):
We are particularly interested in yo	our comments.

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Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance P.O. Box 440280 St. Louis, MO 63144

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