

# G.C.L.A. NEWS

The Newsletter of the Gateway Civil Liberties Alliance

October - December 2021

# **President's Corner**

Here the year is drawing to a close. 2021 has held firm for our gun rights in the state of Missouri. We have been blessed with a Governor, Senate and House of Representatives that truly have Missouri civil liberty well in hand. Now is the time to reach out and get acquainted and let them know what is important!

The Second Amendment Protection Act (SAPA) which was passed and signed into law here in Missouri really has struck a nerve with the anti-gun and anti-gun rights crowd. The proof is it was the lead story on CBS 60 Minutes. It started out with finding some mis-informed county Sheriffs and the big time anti Second Amendment Kansas City mayor. The Anti argument did not make sense. They were terrified they would be sued if they sought any help from the BATFE or the federal government in helping with investigating a felony crime involving firearms. They fail to recognize this act was passed to discourage they agency participating with the Feds enforcing any of the unconstitutional acts and edicts against Missouri residents. This was well explained by Senator Eric Burlison when he was interviewed.

I had a conversation with Sheriff Vernon Betts of St. Louis City and could tell that he was being fed the same misinformation by anti-gun Missouri Democratic politicians. I couldn't talk at the time, I was very busy. I plan on getting with Vernon to give opposing facts.

GCLA was fortunate to have Representatives Dean Ploucher and Dan Shaul speak at our September Members' meeting. These two Missouri Representatives are terrific supporters of our Second Amendment rights here in Missouri,

2022 is upon us, this being a mid-term election year. Let's keep the good people in office here in Missouri.

Don't forget the 2022 Gun Rights Rally .

Hope to see you at future members meetings .

Have fun! Get active! Steve Marx President, GCLA

#### **GCLA's Purpose**

GCLA's purpose is to preserve and protect the 2nd 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

Mark Luther Vice President

John Zeman Secretary

Gene Dultz Treasurer

Gene Dultz Newsletter Chairman

Members' meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Cannoli's Restaurant & Bar (in the back room) at 462 N Hwy. 67, Florissant, MO

Next to the Walgreens Store at the intersection of N. Lindbergh Blvd. and Washington St. (see map on page 7)

#### **Election of 2022 Board of Directors**

The annual election for members of the Board of Directors of GCLA was held at our October 7th Members' Meeting. The expiring board members were: Gene Dultz, Mark Luther, John Zeman and the alternate board member Dan Hyatt. There were no nominations from the floor. The expiring board members were reelected by acclamation by the members present at the meeting and will serve a three year term.

The 2022 Board of Directors of GCLA are:

Terms expire in 2022

Chris Brown Don Childers Kevin Ketterer

Terms expire in 2023

John Cuba Steve Marx Bruce Buwalda Terms expire in 2024

Gene Dultz Mark Luther John Zeman.

Alternate Board member for 2022

Dan Hyatt

At the October 19th Board of Directors' Meeting the board chose the officers for 2022.

The Officers for 2022 are

Steve Marx - President Mark Luther - Vice President John Zeman - Secretary Gene Dultz - Treasurer

Congratulation and good luck to the 2022 Board Members.

#### **Drawings Winners**

The most recent GCLA drawing was held at our members' meeting on Thursday December 2nd, 2021.

The prizes were: First prize a Stevens/Savage 320 Security 12 gauge 18.5" 5 round Matte. Second prize a Benchmade 3" Self-Folding Knife with Friends of NRA Logo on the blade.

Three names were drawn. First Prize is Dennis Allward. Second Prize is Diane Parolin. Alternate, in case there are issues presenting the prizes, is Ron Runge.

#### Federal Gun Control is Not Welcome in Over a Dozen States

The "Second Amendment Sanctuary" movement is well known for spreading like wildfire at the local level, with a strong majority of our country's municipalities that have become "sanctuaries" for gun rights. However, due to the threat of federal gun control from a Joe Biden White House, Gun Owners of America worked in several states to add protections for gun owners. And the results were phenomenal.

In 2021, more than half a dozen states passed some form of protection for 2A rights. Laws vary in strength and provide

different degrees of protection for different aspects of the Second Amendment. While Montana was one of the early states to enact such a law this year, Missouri gets the prize for enacting the toughest. Missouri law contains stiff civil penalties of \$50,000 per violation—and these penalties can be imposed on any agency that enforces federal gun control, if that gun control exceeds what is allowed by Missouri law.

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#### Biden's Year-End Poll Numbers Explains Strong Gun Sales In 2021

A new Rasmussen poll showing Joe Biden has lost ground among likely U.S. voters for his handling of crime and law enforcement issues helps explain the continued interest in private gun ownership.

According to Rasmussen's survey, 51 percent of likely voters give Biden a poor rating for his ability to handle rising crime. Back in July, 48 percent of poll respondents gave the president bad marks on this subject. Rasmussen revealed 77 percent of Republicans and 56 percent of Independents rate the president's handling of crime and law enforcement issues to be poor. According to the FBI National Instant Check System (NICS), more than 35.7 million background checks have been initiated so far this year, and while that number does not reflect actual gun sales, it does indicate a strong continuing interest in gun ownership.

Since Joe Biden took office millions of Americans who had never before owned a firearm bought one. During the week leading up to 'Black Friday' in November, there were more than 687,000 NICS checks initiated, and we anticipate strong numbers for December when the final tally is available .

#### The Second Amendment Is for Everybody A Supreme Court case on New York's carry laws could be a landmark.

Thirteen years after the Supreme Court recognized the true meaning of the Second Amendment in D.C. v. Heller (2008), it's still a "disfavored" right, as Justice Clarence Thomas once put it. Case in point: The question before the Court is whether ordinary New Yorkers lose the right to "bear Arms" in self-defense whenever they walk out their front doors.

New York State Rifle and Pistol Association v. Bruen could close a gap in the High Court's jurisprudence that has persisted too long. Regular citizens in New York face an almost insuperable bar if they want to bear a firearm for personal defense. Openly carrying a handgun is banned. And with certain exceptions, such as for judges and prison workers, getting a concealed-carry license requires demonstrating "proper cause."

That phrase has been interpreted to exclude "a generalized desire" for protection. Applicants must show "a special need" for defense, beyond that of "the general community or of persons engaged in the same profession." In other words, it isn't enough to hold a job that requires carrying wads of cash through high-crime neighborhoods. An impeccable public record doesn't matter. Neither does extensive firearms training.

This is an extraordinarily high bar to place on an enumerated constitutional right, as the gun club says in its brief: "This Court would not tarry long over a law that reserved First Amendment rights to those with an unusually compelling need to worship or criticize the government." A right to "bear Arms" naturally includes taking them outside the home, not merely "carrying a gun from the bedroom to the kitchen," to quote Justice Thomas again, joined by Justice Neil Gorsuch.

New York doesn't dispute this point. It argues, rather, that conditioning carry licenses on "a non-speculative need" is a sensible regulation that's squarely within the Second Amendment. "Many historical laws," it says, "prohibited public carry in circumstances 'apt to terrify the People," including "into places like churches, towns, fairs, and markets." The two sides disagree on precedents going back to 1328.

A win for the gun club, the state claims, will "jeopardize" gun rules in "courthouses, airports, subways, sports arenas, bars, gaming facilities, houses of worship, and schools." That seems unlikely. The Heller ruling itself was clear not to "cast doubt" on "laws forbidding the carrying of firearms in sensitive places such as schools and government buildings."

This case is about "who," not "where." One law-abiding citizen in New York is permitted to carry a gun and another is prohibited. Why? Because some government official decided the first fear was "particularized" and the second was "generalized," even if sincere. In New York City, applying for the license can cost \$400, according to a brief led by the Black Attorneys of Legal Aid. "Each year," it adds, "we represent hundreds of indigent people whom New York criminally charges for exercising their right to keep and bear arms."

In the years since Heller, lower courts have worked to cabin the Second Amendment's protection for handguns to the four corners of the American house. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has gone as far as to say that the Constitution guarantees no "right to carry arms openly," and also no "right for members of the general public to carry concealed firearms."

That amounts to a muzzling of the Second Amendment. And it leaves a law-abiding shopkeeper whistling in the dark with the day's cash proceeds. A Supreme Court corrective that gives more specific weight to its Heller precedent is long overdue.

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# Anti-Gun Provisions Dropped from House-Passed NDAA

On Wednesday, December 8, 2021, the U.S. House of Representatives approved a revised version of the FY22 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the annual defense bill that directs funding for our nation's military. The two anti-gun provisions that were included in an earlier version were removed from the final House-passed bill.

The first provision, led by Rep. Jackie Speier (D-CA), would have ignored constitutional due process protections and allowed for the confiscation of personally-owned firearms of members of the U.S. military. It would have afforded the military judicial system the ability to issue ex parte protective orders that would prohibit firearm possession without giving the accused an opportunity to contest the accusations against them and present evidence in their defense. This would have represented a clear denial of constitutional due process and a stunning betrayal of those who swore an oath to protect and defend our country and the U.S. Constitution.

The second provision, offered as an amendment by Rep.

Norma Torres (D-CA), would have undone components of two export-reform regulations crafted by the Trump Administration. The regulations were designed to enhance American competitiveness, remove burdensome regulations for gunsmiths and other small businesses, modernize export controls, and enhance national security. Instead, the Torres amendment empowers anti-gun legislators to make decisions normally left to subject matter experts, leading to unnecessary delays and increased costs.

On December 15th, the U.S. Senate approved the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), the annual, bi-partisan legislation that directs funding for our nation's military and national security programs. Thankfully for gun owners across the country, this legislation passed with the two anti-gun provisions being struck from the final version. NDAA will now move to the President's desk to be signed into law .

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#### H.R. 8, the Dangerously Flawed, So-Called "Universal" Background Check Bill, Blocked on Senate Floor, FOR NOW

On December 2, U.S. Senator Chris Murphy (D-CT) attempted and failed to pass H.R. 8, the dangerously flawed, so-called "universal" background check bill. As you may recall, Nancy Pelosi and her anti-gun allies in the U.S. House passed this misguided legislation earlier this year. H.R. 8 would do nothing to prevent crime, could not be enforced without a federal gun registry, and would turn otherwise lawabiding citizens into criminals for simply loaning a firearm to friends or family members.

Sen. Murphy tried to bypass regular order, normally consisting of a committee hearing and markup, and instead offered a "unanimous consent" request to pass H.R. 8. Under unanimous consent, the Senate can pass legislation without any debate or a recorded vote. Fortunately for law-abiding gun owners, Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA), the Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, objected to Sen. Murphy's unanimous consent request–effectively blocking H.R. 8 from moving forward.

In response, Sen. Grassley offered an alternative unanimous consent request for S.1775, the Protecting Communities and Preserving the Second Amendment Act of 2021–legislation that would actually reduce violent crime while bolstering protections for law-abiding gun owners.

S. 1775 would increase prosecutions and penalties for those that violate the myriad of gun laws already on the books –an approach NRA has supported for decades. Further, the bill would ensure that National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) contains appropriate records so the system is fast, accurate, and fair. Moreover, S. 1775 would prevent Americans from being unjustly stripped of their Second Amendment rights without due process, as well as strengthen protections for the interstate transportation of firearms and ammunition.

Unfortunately, but unsurprisingly, Sen. Murphy objected to S. 1775's consideration. This objection is merely more evidence that Sen. Murphy and his gun control allies in the U.S. Senate are not interested in prosecuting criminals or ensuring constitutional protections, but instead seek to limit the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

Sen. Murphy's failed attempt to ram H.R. 8 through the U.S. Senate is a good reminder that all Second Amendment supporters must remain vigilant against any and all attempts to limit that right. We applaud Sen. Grassley for standing up to protect the Second Amendment rights of all law-abiding Americans.

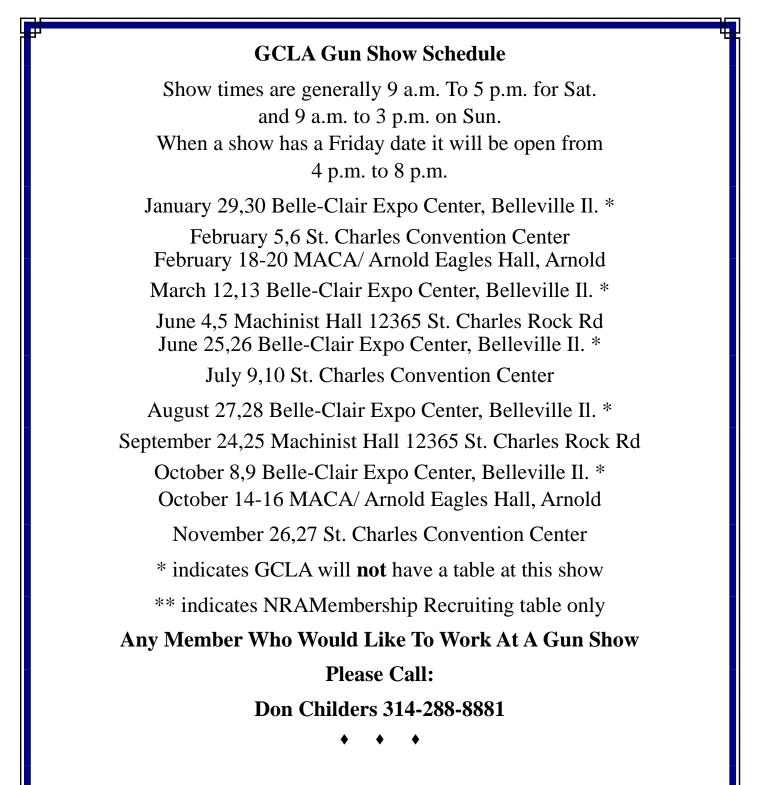
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#### WITH PERMIT PERMITLESS You can carry concealed weapons in Missouri plus 36 other You can only carry in Missouri. states. Firearms safety and legal training required. No training required. You can carry in school zones to drop off, pick up, or go to If you carry a firearm within a thousand feet of a school or school sponsored event, you are in violation of the Federal Gun Free sporting events or meetings inside the school as long as the gun remains locked in the car. School Zone Act. If you are caught carrying in any of the 17 places listed in If you are caught carrying in the 17 places listed, you can be ar-571.107 of the Missouri Revised Statutes, you must be asked to rested and charged with a class B misdemeanor weapons offense. leave, and refuse to leave, before you can be cited with an infraction (not a criminal offense) and fined \$100. You will have a good working knowledge of RSMo 571 You're on your own. (Missouri weapons and ccw law) and RSMo 563 (when you are justified in using self defense). You have the legal knowledge that you can only use your hand-You do not know the very limited times you can use your handgun when your life or that of an innocent other is at risk of serigun. ous physical injury or death. Cost of training is \$125, plus the ccw permit from the sher-Cost of using your handgun and making a mistake? Everyiff which costs no more than \$100. thing you own plus the possibility of you in jail.

#### **Considering Permitless Carry in Missouri?** Here's a comparison of your Right to Carry with and without a permit!

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 for 2022 & 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.

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# 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.

#### 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 2022 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 Tisas 1911A1 US Army Pistol, .45 ACP, 5" barrel, 7 round magazine. Second prize is a Cabela's Catch-All Gear Bag. The drawing will be held at our a members' meeting the date is still to be determined.

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Member meetings location - Cannoli's Restaurant & Bar (in the back room) at 462 N Hwy. 67, Florissant, MO 63031 next to the Walgreens Store at the intersection of N. Lindbergh Blvd. and Washington St. Member meetings are on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00PM.

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APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP	Date:
GATEWAY CIVIL LIBERTIES ALLIANCE	
P.O. Box 440280 Brentwood, MO 63144	
Name:	Day Rhone.
Address:	Evening Phone:
City/State:	Mobile Phone:
Zip Code: Email Addres	
Annual: Adult Membership Dues are \$24.00. Yout	
First year membership can be pro-rated.	
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NRA Member: Y / N If an NRA annual member, ye	
	tional):
We are particularly interested in your comments	



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

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