



D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
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BIDEN TO PUSH FOR REPEAL OF PREEMPTION Senate Bill 23 & House Bill 62.

Based upon information coming to DSSA from Legislative Hall in Dover, Delaware's rabidly anti-gun Attorney General, Beau Biden, has now joined forces with another anti-gun zealot and Bloomberg ally, Mayor Williams of Wilmington, and other Wilmington-based politicians to push for repeal of Delaware's Firearms Preemption Laws.

As you will remember, back in the mid-1980's, the Delaware General Assembly was focused on making sure that Delaware would not be affected by the anti-gun events then traversing the United States and moved to ensure that the federal court decisions that were then threatening the heart and soul of the Second Amendment would not infringe upon the rights of Delawareans. To that end, the Delaware General Assembly went about passing a series of measures that would form the basis for protecting Delaware's Gun owners.

The first step in that process was the passage of two measures that would deny towns, cities and counties the right to pass their own anti-gun ordinances. These measures are known as "The Preemption Statutes".

Once these measures were passed and signed into law, the General Assembly then passed what we now know as Article I Section 20 of the Delaware Constitution, which reads as follows: "A person has the right to keep and bear arms for defense of self, family, home and State, and for hunting and recreation". This addition to Delaware's Bill of Rights has been recognized as being far broader and more protective than the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Under Delaware's preemption statutes, only the Delaware General Assembly has the power and authority to pass gun laws of any kind. None of Delaware's 57 municipalities can pass gun laws and none of Delaware's three counties can pass gun laws - only the Delaware General Assembly has that power and that authority.

You may also remember last year when Wilmington Councilwoman Hanifa G.N. Shabazz of Wilmington's Fourth Council District thumbed her nose at those

preemption statutes and introduced a bill that would have banned a long list of firearms, required universal firearms licensing and registration within the City of Wilmington, and would have required Wilmington PD to confiscate otherwise legal firearms from law-abiding Wilmington residents. And, of course, everyone is familiar with the drug gang violence with which the citizens of Wilmington are forced to live, and Mayor Williams' inability to effectively deal with those gangs.

Now Attorney General Biden, Mayor Williams and other Wilmington politicians want to use Wilmington's drug gang violence and their inability to deal with it as an excuse to gut Delaware's preemption laws.

Two bills are currently pending in the Delaware General Assembly that would dramatically change Delaware's firearms freedom landscape. Those bills are Senate Bill 23 and House Bill 62.

Senate Bill 23 would totally repeal Delaware's municipal firearms preemption law and would allow all 57 of Delaware's towns and cities to pass their own anti-gun laws. If passed, Senate Bill 23 would allow Delaware's municipal governments to create a patchwork of confusing and even conflicting gun laws that no one would be able to understand or obey.

House Bill 62 would simply allow Wilmington to pass its own anti-gun laws. Thanks to Councilwoman Shabazz, we know what those laws would look like.

If either Senate Bill 23 or House Bill 62 were to pass the Delaware General Assembly and then be signed by Governor Markell, there is absolutely no doubt that Mayor Williams and Councilwoman Shabazz will follow "The Bloomberg Plan". There can be no doubt that you will see Wilmington's City Council pass ordinances that would ban a long list of firearms, require registration and licensing of others, and even lead to wide-spread confiscation of otherwise lawfully owned firearms.

And there's more bad news - from what we can tell based upon past actions and the identities of certain personalities serving on City and Town Councils in other jurisdictions, Wilmington won't be the only municipality jumping on Blomberg's anti-gun bandwagon.

Mayor Michael Smith of Blades, Delaware, Mayor Diane Hanson of Dewey Beach, Delaware, Mayor Ken Banner of Middletown, Delaware and Mayor Dennis

Williams of Wilmington are all disciples of New York Mayor Bloomberg and all are members of MAAG (Mayors Against Illegal Guns). So, we have every reason to expect anti-gun legislation in each of those four jurisdictions if SB 23 becomes law.

We also know that there are anti-gun City Councilmen in both Newark and Dover who have made no secret of the fact that they, too, would push for anti-gun measures in those cities if given the opportunity.

Both NRA and DSSA are working diligently to defeat both House Bill 62 and Senate Bill 23. But we need your help.

Please call, email or fax your senator and your representative and politely ask them to vote "No" on both House Bill 62 and Senate Bill 23.

A full list of Delaware Legislators and their contact information may be found elsewhere in this News Letter. That listing may also be found on the DSSA web site, <http://DSSA.us>.

Delaware's Own Version of BATFE On the Horizon?

Last week Governor Jack Markell gave his annual "State of the State" address. During that speech, the Governor proposed the creation of a new Division within the Department of Safety & Homeland Security, a "Division" to be called the "Special Investigations Division". According to the Governor's speech, the focus of this new "Division" will be "gun trafficking".

The Delaware State Police (DSP) is a "division" within the Department of Safety and Homeland Security. The entity we know as Capitol Police is a Division of the Department of Safety and Homeland Security, and there are at least eight other "divisions" within the Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

Does this mean that the Governor is creating a whole new police force - one dedicated to "gun trafficking". Why?

When the Governor actually presented his proposed budget he is proposing to add 3 full-time positions plus associated funding to the Division of Alcohol & Tobacco Enforcement (DATE).

Does this mean the Governor plans to duplicate the federal "gun agency" - the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (BATFE)? If so, does that mean that we can expect the same abuses and civil rights violations at the hands of a new police agency for which the BATFE is so well known?

How much is this new "Unit" going to cost? How about \$265,000. What kind of powers will it exercise? By creating these new specialized police officers, will other existing

agencies be stripped of their powers to enforce Delaware's gun laws? And what about the Delaware State Police?

To implement this unit legislation will be needed to establish the duties and functions of this unit within DATE to give them oversight of crimes related to firearms transactions. What does this really mean? Is one of the duties of this new unit to follow up on the gun you buy from your local dealer?

Does the creation of these new positions mean that Governor Markell has lost faith in the Delaware State Police? Does this mean that Governor Markell believes that the Delaware State Police are not competent to conduct these investigations?

We beg to differ - the detectives within the Delaware State Police are some of the finest criminal investigators in the state, and for that matter, in the country. So why do we need another state police agency just for guns? What's really going on here?

Delaware has enough gun laws - and we have enough police agencies. And if the truth be known, we probably have enough prosecutors. What Delaware does not have is the will to enforce the laws on the books with the people it already has.

On the one hand the Governor calls for the creation of an entirely new unit within the Department of Safety and Homeland Security to deal with guns and gun violence, and on the other he says he wants to do away with "consecutive sentencing" - that's right, within the same speech Governor Markell called for the creation of an entirely new governmental unit to combat crime and then asked that we become more lenient in how we deal with offenders who commit multiple crimes. Which is it Governor?

Hard on guns, but soft on crime? How does that work?

Here's the real answer: It's about guns - it's not about crime.

Because if it was really about crime the Governor would not be using his State of the State Message to ask the General Assembly to outlaw consecutive sentences for criminals who commit multiple crimes. That's right - he says that it's too expensive to put violent drug thugs in jail - and besides, it doesn't look good when Delaware is the only state that does that.....

Let's be clear: Nobody wants bad guys to have guns. Nobody wants criminal gun traffickers selling stolen guns to violent drug thugs. And, everyone wants Wilmington, Dover, Seaford, Newark, Milford and every other town and city in Delaware to be safe.

What Delaware really needs is an Attorney General with the will to prosecute criminals for the gun charges they already have, and a Governor who is willing to acknowledge that creating a new bureaucracy is not the

same as actually putting armed and violent drug thugs in jail.

Our view, Mr. Governor: Give the Delaware State Police, Wilmington Police, Newark Police, Dover Police and all of Delaware's current law enforcement agencies what they need to combat these violent drug offenders and home invaders. DSP has done an outstanding job protecting the citizens of Delaware for over 90 years. Let them continue to do good work for the people of Delaware.

Give our prosecutors what they need to put the violent drug thugs in jail, and keep them there.

What we don't need is yet another costly specialized police unit and yet another layer of bureaucracy inside the already bloated Department of Safety and Homeland Security.

GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOOR SHOW HARRISBURG, PA - FEBRUARY 1-9, 2014

Last year, in fear of the aftermath of the Newtown Tragedy, the promoters of what most of us here in Delaware always thought of as "The Harrisburg Outdoor Show" banned "black guns" from their annual event. The reaction to that ban was immediate and dramatic.

Most, if not all, of the vendors who normally display at that event revolted and pulled out of the show, causing the show to be canceled. The impact of that cancellation was also dramatic.

"The Harrisburg Show" was always the place where Eastern Hunters went to book hunts all over the world, to socialize, swap lies, buy things they normally can't buy anywhere else, and to see old friends and make new friends. More importantly, the good folks up in the Harrisburg area who normally count on the Show and its visitors for economic stability were hurt badly by the cancellation.

In response, NRA contacted the local political and business leaders and offered to build an even bigger and better show for 2014, and beyond. As a result of NRA's efforts and the efforts of the firearms, hunting and outdoors industry, there will be a new show in town this year - the Great American Outdoor Show.

The Great American Outdoor Show will open on February 1, 2014 and will run through February 9, 2014. The venue will be the Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex in Harrisburg. This show will be bigger, better and more diverse than any show ever held in that venue.

For a full listing of events and for tickets on line go to <http://www.greatamericanoutdoorshow.org>.

Let's all go to Harrisburg and show our support for the people of the Harrisburg area, for the NRA and for our right to keep and bear arms. Let's go show the anti-gun and anti-hunting crowd just how much we love our outdoor sports and just how important "The Harrisburg Show" is to us.

See you there!

Delaware Benefits from Spending by Target Shooters

January 15, 2014 For more information contact:
Bill Brassard Jr. National Shooting Sports Foundation

LAS VEGAS, Nev. -- The National Shooting Sports Foundation has released a major new report about the importance of target shooting activities to the economies of Delaware and the nation. NSSF is the trade association for the firearms, ammunition, hunting and shooting sports industry.

The report, Target Shooting in America: Millions of Shooters, Billions of Dollars, was released today in conjunction with a press conference at the Shooting, Hunting and Outdoor Trade Show (SHOT Show), the largest trade show of its kind in the world and a showcase for the firearms and ammunition industry.

The report provides a first-ever look at U.S. target shooting-related expenditures. Also included are state-by-state statistics for the number of target shooters, retail sales, taxes and jobs. The target-shooting report complements the Hunting in America report released by NSSF and the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies in March 2013.

In Delaware, target shooting-related spending contributed \$62,547,675 to the state's economy and supported 564 jobs.

Nationally, the money target shooters spent in 2011 resulted in \$23 billion being added to the nation's economy and supported more than 185,000 jobs.

"More people target shooting is good news for the industry, and it is equally good news for America's economy," said NSSF President and CEO Steve Sanetti.

Retail sales related to target shooting account for nearly \$10 billion, with rifle and handgun shooting being the leading contributors, followed by shotgun and muzzleloader shooting. California and Texas are the top two states ranked by retail sales.

Combining data from Target Shooting in America and Hunting in America shows that target shooters and hunters together poured more than \$110 billion into the nation's

economy, fueling more than 866,000 jobs. "Communities and businesses of all sizes benefit from these activities," said Sanetti.

Target shooters (\$8.2 billion) and hunters (\$8.4 billion) spend nearly equal amounts on equipment common to both pursuits, such as firearms, ammunition and accessories. Hunters spend more overall than target shooters when factors such as fuel, food, lodging and transportation are included.

"The Target Shooting in America and Hunting in America reports give us a more complete understanding of the economic importance of the shooting sports to America," said Sanetti. "We've long known about the recreational benefits of these activities, and now we know how much they contribute to our country's financial well-being."

DOES YOUR INSURANCE COMPANY DISCRIMINATE AGAINST YOU?

Does your insurance company discriminate against you because you are a hunter, sportsman or gun owner? Have you ever had an insurance company refuse to sell an insurance policy to you because you own guns, or raise the price of the policy because you do? Does your insurance company know you have guns, and are you worried about who they might tell?

The answers to all of those questions are apparently "YES" in Florida.

Senator Tom Lee of Bradenton, Florida has introduced Senate Bill 424 in the Florida Legislature which would allow state insurance regulators to impose fines and penalties on auto and property insurance carriers that refuse to issue or renew policies or that cancel policies because the policy holder owns a gun. The bill also prohibits insurance companies from disclosing gun ownership information in their possession to third parties.

The Delaware State Sportsmen's Association is considering whether such a bill might be needed here in Delaware. But before DSSA begins the process of drafting such a bill, or finding sponsors for such a bill, we need your help in collecting information.

If you have ever experienced having an insurance carrier refuse to issue or renew a policy of insurance because you are a gun owner or a hunter, or if you have ever had an insurance policy canceled for those reasons we need to know.

If you have experienced discrimination of this kind at the hands of an insurance carrier please email that information to DSSA at info@dssa.us. Your responses will be kept confidential.

Flintlock Rescue

This is a story about a replica flintlock rifle that was rescued from a life of oblivion over my fireplace. It hangs there today but when the urge to shoot it arises it rises to the occasion.

About 20 years ago I was doing a lot of deer hunting with various caplock muzzle loading rifles. One day I decided to make it even harder and archaic by buying a flintlock rifle. I bought a low end Italian replica .45 rifle from Dixie. I had to replace the useless sights before shooting it but that was not the major problem. The bloody thing would only fire about 3 times out of 10. A flintlock is all about the lock. This lock was a piece of pot metal junk with way too much friction and poor geometry. I just knew that Daniel Boone had something better than this.

I inquired of Dixie as to whether they sold a better lock I could retrofit to the rifle. They responded that they did not. Since when it did fire it actually shot well and obviously had a well made barrel I didn't want to give up on it.

I got out my Dixie catalog and found a Pedersoli lock they sell to folks who build their own rifles. Pedersoli is one of the upscale Italian replica makers and had a good reputation. I got out my dividers and started scaling dimensions from the photo and comparing them to my own lock. They looked very much alike and the mounting screws appeared to be the same distance apart. So taking the gamble I ordered it.

When it arrived I discovered that it had identical mounting holes and was nearly interchangeable with the old lock. Some minor wood removal and use of epoxy to fill small gaps produced the desired result. I was rewarded at the range by a totally reliable flintlock that went off every time with much faster locktime. The quality of the flint was the only limiting factor. Eureka!

Clint Hubbard, DSSA Board Member

DMA Shooters Travel to Camp Perry, OH and Shoot in the 2014 Camp Perry Open

Over the weekend of 17th to the 19th of January, 2014, the Delaware Military Academy Marksmanship team participated in the 8th Camp Perry Open. This year's open included both a Junior only three-position air rifle competition combined with a 4-person team match as well as an air rifle event that is open to both men and women of all ages. It is a two day event where competitors will fire 60 standing shots each day in accordance with USA

Shooting rules. New to this year's competition were 3 person team matches each of the two standing days. Numerous collegiate athletes were on hand to compete in this highly regarded match. This is an opportunity not available to many regular high schools and is regarded highly as a competitive marksmanship team trip.

On 16 January cadets left school to embark on their shooting trip. Cadets David Tindall, Patrick Rigor, Jesse Mulligan, Dustin Riley, Nathan Zebrowski, Jon and Chris Howell, and Shane Bonnowsky were among those to participate. Gunnery Sgt. Robert Lemke headed the team as Officer-In-Charge with Lt. Col. Jon Howell as the coach. This was the first high profile marksmanship team trip with both sporter and precision teams competing.

As the team neared Camp Perry the weather closed in and the last hour of the ride was in heavy snow. It was interesting driving until we go to the motel. We shot the first relay on Friday, which started at 1330 and the weather was decent. On Saturday morning when we had to be on the range at 0700, it was 5 degrees. It flurried most of the day. It was a balmy 11 degrees when we repeated our early start on Sunday.

The competition began with a 3 position 60 shot match on Friday. This match was only open to while Saturday and Sunday was a 60 shot standing match. Each cadet experienced the nuances of high level air rifle competitions at the state of the art facilities at Camp Perry. The trip granted a new experience for the DMA Marksmanship team and marked its progression as a team to be reckoned with. The precision team missed 8th place by a single center shot, but all 3 of the 4 precision team members had new personal high scores. In the Precision Class, Cadets Tindall, and both Howell's shot over the minimum score of 560+ and will receive a Gold Junior Achievement Pin to wear on their Parade Uniform. Cadet Rigor repeated his Silver performance in Precision Class. The Precision team which shot in November at the King George High School Invitational match improved its best ever score by 124 points. In Sporter Class, Cadets Riley and Zebrowski will receive a Gold Junior Achievement Pin as well. Cadet Mulligan repeated with a Silver award which has already achieved. The Sporter Team made a good showing firing 10th out of 12 competing teams.

In the standing competition, new personal high scores were fired all around by the Precision Team. The team was led on Saturday with a score of 558.7 by Cadet Rigor, but only by 3 points, who was chased by Cadet Tindall, who fired a 555.4. On Sunday Cadet Tindall was not to be denied (568.0) and beat Cadet Rigor by three (565.9), however Cadet Rigor was 0.4 points higher for the two matches. The story for the two Howell brothers was nearly the same. Chris beat Jon on Saturday by 4 points (546.2 to 542.6), but Jon then beat Chris the next day by only 1

(555.5 to 554.1) giving Chris the edge for the Standing portion. The scores fired by all the cadets are getting into the rarefied air of collegiate shooting.

Participation in this match prepared both the DMA Sporter and Precision Team for their next large match where both teams have been invited to represent the NJROTC Area 4 at the NJROTC Regional Championships. The invitation comes because of their great performance in the NJROTC Postal matches fired in November. The DMA Precision Team was number 1 and the Sporter Team was number 2 in NJROTC Area 4.

The Cadets from DMA are grateful for the support of the School and the Delaware State Sportsman's Association for support, without which the trip would not have been possible.

To The Members of DSSA THANK YOU

As we start a new year with many opportunities and challenges to be faced, it is important to know, DSSA cannot function without member and friend support...your support.

As DSSA steps up to meet the challenges to our Second Amendment Rights in the State of Delaware, whether it be a pending bill in municipal, county, state or federal government, challenging existing or pending legislation or bring suit against unconstitutional laws, it takes great resources.

It is important that DSSA membership stay in communication. DSSA maintains a website at DSSA.com, where important information is posted as it becomes available. Members can also renew memberships, donate and change levels of membership levels via the website.

Please note, that for the past few years, the MAILING ADDRESS for the Delaware State Sportsman's Association is DSSA, P.O. BOX 94, LINCOLN, DELAWARE 19960. Members may renew or correspond through this address. The old Wilmington address is now obsolete.

W.D Bell, DSSA Membership Chairman

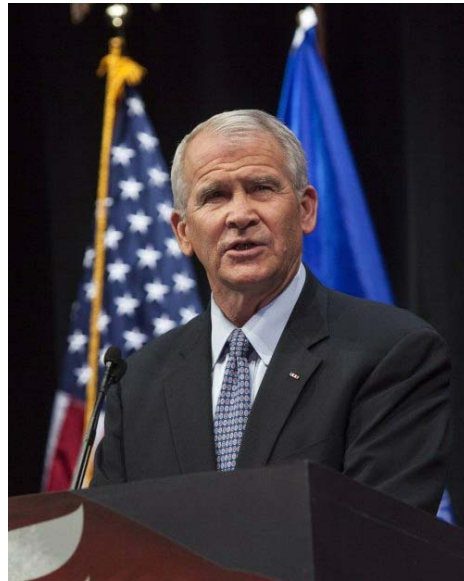
DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION'S
2ND AMENDMENT FREEDOM BANQUET

Modern Maturity Center, Dover, Delaware

February 25, 2014

Doors open @ 5:30 p.m. - Dinner @ 7:00 p.m.

A Salute to the Troops Honoring Those Who Keep Us Free



FEATURING

FOX NEWS PERSONALITY & NRA Board Member
Lt. Colonel Oliver North, USMC (Ret.)

Silent Auction - Limited Live Auction, Book Signing

Live Auction includes DE license plate NRA 5 & Limited Edition Charlton Heston book

\$50 per person (tickets are limited)

Tickets: Call Carolyn Thompson

302-697-6769

Defending the Rights of Delaware's Hunters & Gun Owners SINCE 1968

SAVE THE DATE, FRIENDS OF NRA DINNER

The next Friends of NRA Dinner will be held on Friday, May 9, 2014. As usual, the Spring event will be held at Modern Maturity Center, 1121 Forrest Avenue, Dover, DE. 19904. There will be games to play, and lots of prizes to win. A delicious roast beef dinner will be served. A silent auction will be held as well as a great live auction with lots of guns and other great merchandise to buy. We expect a sell out crowd, so please buy your tickets early. Tickets are \$50.00 each and should go on sale mid-January.

Also, check out our pre-dinner raffle this year. Tickets will be available early January and the drawing will be held on the night of our dinner. The raffle is for a Heritage 11 gun safe with 3 guns already in it, including a Stoger o/u 12ga Shotgun, a Ruger 10-22 Takedown Rifle and a Kimber Custom.45 ACP. Tickets are \$10.00 each or 3 tickets for \$20.00. Yes, you read that correctly. This is a great price to possibly win all three guns and the safe. Please contact one of our Friends of NRA volunteers or you can call Carolyn at 302-697-6769.

Delaware State Sportsmen's Association, Inc. Membership Application

Send to: Membership Secretary

Delaware State Sportsmen's Association

P.O. Box 94 Lincoln, DE 19960

Individual Membership (check one)

A. Life \$400 ___ B. Annual \$25 ___ C. Family \$ 40 ___ D. Junior \$ 10 ___ E. Email \$20___

Name: _____ NRA Member? _____

Street Address: _____ New DSSA member? _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ DSSA Renewal? _____

Phone Number: (_____) _____ Occupation: _____

Email: _____ (PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Family Memberships (Must be part of life or annual member's household.)

_____, _____
_____, _____

I certify that I am not now and never have been a member of any organization which has as any part of its program the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States by force or violence; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence; that if admitted to membership in the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association, I will fulfill the obligations of good sportsmanship and uphold the Right to Keep and Bear Arms found in the Constitution of my State of Residence and of the United States of America.

**MEMBERSHIP FEES AND DONATIONS,
PLEASE TAKE NOTE:**

Our Organization exists and is sustained by the membership fees and donations we receive annually. Please note that we appreciate and need your support more than ever. Our membership has virtually doubled in the past few months and with this infusion of support DSSA can and plans to move forward in areas and ways we have not been able to do before. We ask that when making donations to DSSA or DFLA that you use a separate check for each organization. This will ensure that the monies will be used as you the member/donator would have us use it. To help in this area, DSSA has set out to allow online payments and registration for membership. As you read this, provisions are being made to facilitate credit card usage in a secure manner to make payments and to donate. THANK YOU

DSSA NEWS

The DSSA NEWS is a bi-monthly publication of the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association. It is distributed to each member as a benefit of membership. Additional copies are provided to elected officials and other NRA state associations. If you would like to contribute to the DSSA NEWS please submit your material to jeff.hague@dssa.us. Questions or concerns may be sent to the same address.

Mail Delivery Option

If you have paid dues at the full rate of \$25.00 per year you may elect to receive your newsletter through the USPS. To make a change please contact DSSA Membership Secretary, William D. Bell at: dabll@comcast.net or 302-245-4822.

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