



# D.S.S.A. NEWS

**DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**  
A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S  
ASSOCIATION

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## PRESIDENT'S NOTEBOOK

by John Thompson

On Wednesday, June 9, 2010 the Delaware Senate passed House Bill 226 by a vote of 21-0. A provision added as an amendment provides an affirmative defense to any person who has filed a timely concealed carry permit renewal application but is still waiting for the Superior Court to act. While it does not actual say so the amended bill, when signed by the Governor, can act as a temporary extension of one's concealed carry permit beyond the normal May 31 expiration. This bill started in the House having been requested by the Attorney General's office to stiffen penalties for persons convicted of carrying concealed firearm without a license. Because law abiding permit holders had been delayed by the Court and/or the Attorney General's office in renewing their licenses the DSSA sought and obtained the extension amendment.

While the bill and the amendment passed easily in the House it stalled in the Senate over the sentencing provisions. Since time was running out DSSA members and representatives contacted their senators seeking action. Sen. Patricia Blevins responded by "walking" the bill through the Judiciary Committee which she chairs and had it placed on the June 9 Senate agenda. Representatives of the Attorney General's office acknowledged that the bill's sudden revival was unexpected and that credit belonged to the DSSA.

The protections afforded by HB 226 will not be law until it is signed by Governor Markell. Please take a few minutes to contact his office and politely request that the law abiding license holders who promptly file for renewal of their permits should not become felons at the stroke of midnight on May 31 because the responsible government agencies are failing to carry out their duties in a timely fashion. You may also remind the governor's office that the fee for permit renewal was increased this year from \$34.50 to \$65.00. The Governor may be contacted by phone in Dover at 302-744-4101 or Wilmington at 302-577-3210.

This year's legislative session is not over and the DSSA still hopes to gain passage of bill to protect law abiding gun owners from restrictive regulations imposed by the faceless and name less bureaucrats in the executive branch of the state government. House Bill 357 is designed to do just that. On June 10, 2010 House Substitute for HB 357 was introduced. The revised bill will apply only to housing authorities and states the

government sponsored or related agencies that provide housing to low income individuals cannot enact regulations interfering with such persons rights to keep and bear arms as provided by Section 20, Article 1 of the Delaware Constitution. Currently the four government housing authorities prohibit their residents from keeping a firearm in their homes. The DSSA believes that persons in government housing are not second class citizens and should have all of the rights enjoyed by those who are not economically disadvantaged. Please contact your state representative and ask him or her to support House Substitute 1 for HB 357. A copy of the bill is on the DSSA web site at [delsports.net](http://delsports.net).

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## John Lott on Public Shootings

Large multiple-victim public shootings are exceedingly rare events, but they garner massive news attention, and the misperceptions they produce are hard to erase. When I have been interviewed by foreign journalists, even German ones, they usually start off by asking why multiple-victim public shootings are such an American problem. And of course, they are astonished when I remind them of the attacks in their own countries and point out that this is not an American problem, it is a universal problem, but with a common factor: The attacks occur in public places where civilians are banned from carrying guns.

John R. Lott Jr. is the author of *More Guns Less Crime*. For his complete article see:

<http://article.nationalreview.com/435971/gun-control-and-mass-murders/john-r-lott-jr>

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## POLICE SEEK TO DESTROY GUNS

The Delaware State Police is pursuing legislation to destroy firearms that have been surrendered or confiscated. The police claim that they are overwhelmed with guns surrendered due to Family Court Protection from Abuse (PFA) proceedings. Currently, however, they make no effort to contact the lawful owners to notify them to retrieve their guns. There should be no short cuts around the due process rights of property owners. Please contact your legislators and tell them that you oppose the destruction of lawfully owned guns.

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## Choosing the Right Concealed Carry Course

By John C. Sigler

Over the past several years I have been asked how I would choose a course of instruction to qualify for a Concealed Carry Permit under Delaware Law. In response, I have usually advised folks that there are three general criteria for choosing the right course of instruction: "(1) Are you comfortable with the instructor?" (2) Are you comfortable in the knowledge that the course content favorably comports with the requirements of the statute?" And, (3) "Does the course meet my individual needs?"

While I still adhere to these three elements as being the fundamental criteria, I am afraid that my initial answer simply begs the question. Therefore, please allow me to expand upon those ideas and, hopefully, provide more meaningful guidance as to "Which course should I choose?"

1. "Are you comfortable with the instructor?" This is essentially a two-part inquiry.

First, for me to be comfortable with the instructor I must be satisfied that he/she is legally qualified under the law. Simply put, the statute requires that the instructor(s) be "certified by a nationally recognized organization that customarily offers firearms training." \*\*\*

At minimum, this means that any NRA certified instructor would qualify. However, this does not necessarily end the inquiry, especially if you seek quality. I would want more than a simple NRA instructor's certification. I would want to know that the instructor is certified to teach more than just the fundamentals. In other words, I would want someone certified to teach such NRA courses as Basic Pistol, Personal Protection In the Home, and Personal Protection Outside the Home - after all, the purpose of a concealed carry permit is to carry a defensive weapon outside the home. Additionally, because of my background and knowledge of course materials, I would be very comfortable with someone holding a NRA Police Firearms Instructor's certification. In other words, while any of NRA's instructor certifications may meet the letter of the law, I would be more comfortable with an instructor holding one or more specialized certifications. And finally, I would have a much higher comfort level with an experienced instructor - I don't want someone for whom this is his/her "first rodeo".

Second, I would want to feel comfortable that the instructor(s) really cared about me, was truly interested in teaching me everything he/she knows about the topics, and has the type of personality that will make my learning experience both enjoyable and productive. I do not want an instructor who is a "show-off" or who conducts him/her self as if he/she is a boot camp DI, bent on enhancing his/her own ego rather than enhancing my understanding of the material. An instructor who might be right for me may be absolutely wrong for my wife - personalities matter when it comes to being an effective teacher.

2. Are you comfortable in the knowledge that the course content favorably comports with the requirements of the statute?

There are ten statutory elements which must be contained within every course regardless of length or cost:

- a. "Instruction regarding knowledge and safe handling of firearms."
- b. "Instruction regarding safe storage of firearms and child safety."

- c. "Instruction regarding knowledge and safe handling of ammunition"
- d. "Instruction regarding safe storage of ammunition and child safety".

These first four elements are fundamental to the introduction of firearms and ammunition to the home. While these may seem to be elementary and basic to most of us, they are not to those coming into the world of firearm ownership for the first time. Ask your prospective instructor how he/she intends to present this information and how many hours will be spent on these four elements. Ask to see the syllabus. There should be a hands-on segment and a student demonstration/testing element to this segment of instruction. Videos, handouts and films work, but nothing beats actual hands-on experiences. If the instructor treats these four fundamental elements with seriousness and respect, then you can rest assured that he/she will treat the rest of the curriculum in the same manner.

- e. "Instruction regarding safe firearms shooting fundamentals."
- f. Live fire shooting exercises conducted on a range, including the expenditure of a minimum of 100 rounds of ammunition."

These two elements are where the rubber meets the road, so to speak. When choosing a course, you should ask yourself with realistic candor, "How much experience do I really have?" The more experience you have, the less instructional and range time you will need; and the less experience and expertise you have, the more classroom and range time you will need. Ask the instructor about the drills he/she will run with you; how much classroom time will be spent on learning the fundamental theories and concepts of shooting versus how much range time will be needed to meet the goals and objectives set forth in the syllabus. Will you be restricted to the bare minimum 100 rounds of live fire experience or will you shoot more, if need be? Ask the instructor what he/she believes is the bare minimum level of proficiency he/she will expect you to demonstrate in order to meet the requirements of (e) and (f), above. Ask how the instructor will determine whether you are progressing as he/she feels you should in order to meet this requirement.

- g. "Identification of ways to develop and maintain firearm shooting skills".

An instructor who simply tells you to practice is not giving you what you need in this regard. He/she should discuss with you such things as competitive shooting opportunities, club membership opportunities, range membership opportunities and drills that you can conduct on your own, including how to dry fire safely and responsibly.

- h. "Instruction regarding federal and state laws pertaining to the lawful purchase, ownership, transportation, use and possession of firearms"
- i. "Instruction regarding the laws of this State (Delaware) pertaining to the use of deadly force for self defense"

I would expect to see several hours of instruction and discussion relating to these two topics. I would also expect to receive copies of the several sections of Chapter 4 of Title 11 of the Delaware Code pertaining to the use of force for self defense,

defense of others and defense of property. I would also expect considerable discussion, including handouts, with regard to the transfer of firearms between individuals, including discussions concerning the federal laws pertaining to the transfer of firearms across state lines. To be totally comfortable with the curriculum in these two areas I would want to know that these materials are either being presented or reviewed by an attorney. Persons licensed as federal firearms dealers (FFL's) will be especially knowledgeable concerning transfer of firearms.

- j. "Instruction regarding techniques for avoiding a criminal attack and how to manage a violent confrontation, including conflict resolution".

Perhaps one of the best courses available anywhere is an NRA course of instruction and instructional materials called "Refuse to be a Victim". If your instructor is certified by the NRA as a "Refuse to be a Victim Instructor" you may rest assured that he/she will present this material in an interesting and responsible manner.

3. Does the course meet my needs?

Generally speaking, the two needs to be met by a concealed carry course are (1) to fulfill the statutory requirement; and (2) to prepare you to be a competent and responsible concealed carry licensee. When choosing a course and/or instructor you should be very confident that at the end of the course of instruction you (1) will have met the statutory requirements and (2) that you will know enough so as to not endanger yourself, your family or society, in general. Remember, if you use deadly force and are not legally justified in doing so, you are going to jail - it's that simple.

Finally, before you begin down the road toward obtaining a permit to carry, be sure that you fully understand the very grave responsibility you are assuming. And please understand that there is only one reason for a concealed carry permit - and that reason is to enable you to be in a position to lawfully use deadly force in defense of self or others. If you are not psychologically and mentally prepared to actually employ deadly force should the need arise, you have no business carrying a concealed deadly weapon - this isn't a game, or a social/political experiment, or an ego trip. Obtaining a permit to carry is serious business, and a grave responsibility.

\*\*\*All quotations are taken directly from Section 1441 of Title 11 of the Delaware Code, as amended.

## CHANGES AT THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION.

The Membership Secretary of many years and dedicated service, Foster Renee has passed the reins over to a new Secretary. Along with the years of administration of the membership, the records of members and the inevitable changes that have happened due to members changing residence and addresses it is necessary to update members information. With the help of the computer we are attempting to streamline our records and to service our members in a manner that will be fiscally responsible.

There is a substantial cost in mailing our informative news letter via snail mail. Using the electronic media (email / internet) the DSSA can get information to you the member quicker and cheaper. DSSA hosts a website <http://blog.delsports.net/> where members can view the latest News Letter and the most current information, membership applications and links to other sites with additional information. Members and potential members can copy the Membership Application and send it to the NEW Membership address: Delaware State Sportsmen's Association Membership, P.O. Box 94, Lincoln, Delaware 19973. Please check your Membership Card and check your expiration date and reapply ASAP. Renewing without DSSA having to send out invoices saves the organization hundreds of dollars a year. With the economy being the way it is today, we all want to be fiscally responsible and save where we can. Fighting for our Second Amendment rights is not cheap. The DSSA appreciates your cooperation in helping us to be vigilant in this endeavor. If your Address Label is hi-lighted in yellow, your membership may be ready to expire.

Any questions or concerns regarding Membership? Feel free to contact The Membership Secretary, William D. Bell, at [dabll@comcast.net](mailto:dabll@comcast.net) or call 302-422-6534

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## LEGAL ACTION

The National Rifle Association has filed suit against the Wilmington Housing Authority for its ongoing violations of the Delaware and United States Constitutions. A copy of the complaint and other filings are available on the DSSA website: [delsports.net](http://delsports.net). The Wilmington Housing Authority, as well as the Delaware State Housing Authority, Newark Housing Authority and Dover Housing Authority, prohibit residents from possessing firearms in their homes. If caught exercising this fundamental constitutional right tenants face summary eviction.

In 1987 Delaware's Constitution was amended to state: A person has the right to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and State, and for hunting and recreational use. Section 20, Article 1. Residents of public are not second class citizens and can no more be deprived of this Constitutional Right than they can be deprived of their rights to free speech, religion, jury trial or against unreasonable searches and seizures.

Several months ago the NRA put the housing authorities on notice that if this unconstitutional violation was not corrected suit would be filed. When no response was received and no corrective action taken a plaintiff came forward and the complaint was filed in the Delaware Chancery Court. The identity of the plaintiff is being kept confidential because she has been threatened by housing authority agents. In addition to vindicating the rights of public housing residents the NRA is also seeking damages, costs and attorney's fees. The action and inaction of the housing authority and its political enablers such as Mayor Baker and Governor Markell will most probably result in an expensive and embarrassing defeat.

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**DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS, JUNE - AUGUST 2010 by Dan Lindbergh****PLACES TO SHOOT**

<b>Ommelanden Rt.9</b>	Trap & Skeet	Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. - Last Sign Up 8:00 p.m. - Friday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Last Sign up 3:00 p.m. - Closed Monday, Tuesday & Thursday - 302-323-5333
5 Stand		No Evening Hours. Wednesday 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. last sign up 2:30 p.m. Friday - Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Last sign up 2:30 p.m.
<b>Eagle Wing Dover, A.F.B.</b>	Skeet & Clays	Wednesday 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Manager Chris Smith at 302-677-5553, Range 302-677-6308. To enter the base you need either a military ID or a Skeet Pass. If you need a pass call Chris Smith for details.
<b>Alexander's</b>		Multi Use Range. Rifle & Pistol Wednesday - Sunday 8:00 a.m. til Dusk. Targets to 600 yd. Membership only. Massey, 410-928-3311

**3-D ARCHERY**

July 6, 13, 20, 27	3:30 to 7:00 P.M. - Topton F&G - Topton, Pa - Dan Hartzel - 610 - 509 - 3707
August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31	3:30 to 7:00 P.M. - Topton F&G - Topton, Pa - Dan Hartzel - 610 - 509 - 3707

**BENCHREST**

July 18	10 a.m. - 100 yd - Bidgeville Rifle & Pistol - Bridgeville, De - Richard Timmons 410-543-2804
August 15	10 a.m. - 100 yd - Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol - Richard Timmons 410-543-2804
August 22	10 a.m. - 600 yd - Tune Up - Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol - Richard Timmons 410-543-2804

**BLACK POWDER**

July 3	Black Powder Cartridge Firearms - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club - Bob Tyson 302-539-2666
July 10	Novelty Shoot - 10 a.m. - Brandywine Muzzle Loading Long Rifles - Southern Chester County Sportsmen's Club - Rt 926 - London Grove, Pa - Michael Amico & David Wright
July 17	Black Powder Muzzleloader Shoots - Percussion, Flint, Revolver, Single Shot Pistol - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club, Seaford, Delaware - Ray Stevens 302-875-5428
August 7	Black Powder Cartridge Firearms - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club - Bob Tyson 302-539-2666
August 14	Presidents Shoot - 10 a.m. - Brandywine Muzzle Loading Long Rifles - Southern Chester County Sportsmen's Club - Rt 926 - London Grove, Pa - Mike Butler & Charlie Hufnal
August 21	Black Powder Muzzleloader Shoots - Percussion, Flint, Revolver, Single Shot Pistol - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club, Seaford, Delaware - Ray Stevens - 302-875-5428

**COWBOY**

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Indoor Practice for Outside - 7:30 p.m. - Delaware Rifle & Pistol, Elsmere-Jack Conomon, 302-654-7850
July 3	Eas'dern Shore Renegades - Delmarva Sportsman's Assoc. Sudlersville, Md - Earl Brooks - 410 - 648 - 6829
July 7, 14, 21, 28	Indoor Practice for Outside - 7:30 p.m. - Delaware Rifle & Pistol, Elsmere-Jack Conomon, 302-654-7580
July 18	SASS - Paden's Posse - 9a.m. - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club, Seaford - Dave Bell 302-245-4822
August 1	Boot Hill Gang-Reg. 8:30-Shooters Meeting 9:30-Topton Fish & Game-Ranger Smith 610-797-7844
August 4, 11, 18, 25	Indoor Practice for Outside - 7:30 p.m. - Delaware Rifle & Pistol, Elsmere-Jack Conomon 302-654-6829
August 7	Eas'dern Shore Renegades - Delmarva Sportsman's Assoc. Sudlersville, Md - Earl Brooks - 410 - 648 - 6829
August 15	SASS - Paden's Posse - 9a.m. - Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club, Seaford - Dave Bell - 302 - 245 - 4822

**INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PISTOL**

July 18	Steel Matches Pistol & Revolver - 125 Shots Minimum - Guthsville - Jim Mumbower - 610 - 433 - 4064
July 3	2700 Regional w/ leg & Dr. - Marriotsville, Md- Neal Kravitz - 410 - 883 - 2110
July 4, 12, 19, 26	Silhouette Pistol Indoor- 7:00 p.m. - 50 ft - Delaware Rifle & Pistol, Elsmere Jim Bowman - 302-368-8626
July 6, 13, 20, 27	Indoor Pistol - Bullseye Practice 22-38-45 -50 ft. - Delaware Rifle & Pistol - Paul Connor, 302-995-5657
July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30	Silhouette Pistol & Rifle - Indoor 5p.m. 25yd - Open to Public - \$2.00 Buys 40 Knock Down Targets and Home Made Dinner - Delaware State Pistol Club, New Castle - Dan Lindbergh 302-475-4228
July 11, 18	National Pistol Matches Camp Perry Ohio - Hank Maier - 302 - 239 - 6552
July 18	IPSC Pistol - Topton Fish & Game Topton, Pa - Dean DeTurk
July 24, 25	Outdoor 2700 - Central Jersey Rifle & Pistol - Mary Badiak - 908

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**DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION****INDOOR AND OUTDOOR PISTOL**

- July 25 Pistol Combat - 9 a.m. - Outdoors - Open to the Public - DLEMA Delaware Law Enforcement Marksmanship Assoc. - Sudlersville, Md - Mario Dobrich - 302 - 629 - 4125
- August 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Indoor Pistol - Bullseye Practice 22-38-45-50 ft.- Delaware Rifle & Pistol - Paul Connor 302-995-5657
- August 7 2700 Outdoor - Citizens, N.J. - Keith Stern - 609-462-9428
- August 14 Pistol Combat - 9 a.m. - Outdoors - Open to the Public - DLEMA Delaware Law Enforcement Marksmanship Assoc. Seaford, De - Mario Dobrich - 302 - 629 - 4125
- August 14, 15 IPSC Pistol - GSSF Keystone State Ballistic Challenge - Topton Fish & Game Topton, Pa - Dean DeTurk
- August 14, 15 2700 Outdoor - Central Jersey Rifle & Pistol - Mary Badiak - 908 - 788 - 5503
- August 21 - 22 Delaware State Outdoor Championship w/EIC & Dist. Rev. Match - Greg Barton - 302-324-9864
- August 22 Steel Matches Pistol & Revolver - 125 Shots Minimum - Ontelaunee - Dick Eichelberger - 610-395-6776
- August 28, 29 2700 Outdoor - Palmyra, Pa - Jeff Lutz 717-307-2238 eve
- August 28, 29 Eastern Area State Championship w/Leg & DR - Boyertown, Pa - Keith Davis - 788-5503

**SMALL BORE & HIGH POWER RIFLE**

- July 3 High Power Rifle-4 Man Team Match-Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol-Jeff Hague-302-422-0233
- July 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 Jr. Small Bore Rifle - Teach Your Children The Basics Of Safe Gun Handling And Marksmanship-8:30 a.m. Year Round Class - Public Invited-All Equipment Supplied- Delaware State Pistol Club, New Castle, De Foster Rennie - 302 - 998 - 4820 Dave Heckler 302-733-0838
- July 4 Rim Fire Rifle - Silhouette Match - Quinton Sportsman's Club - Gary Ireland - 856-296-4982
- July 10 High Power Rifle - 800 Aggregate - Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol - Jeff Hague - 302-422-0233
- July 11 High Power Rifle - 3 x 600 yd Matches - Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol - Jeff Hague - 302-422-0233
- July 24 High Power Rifle - 800 Aggregate - Bridgeville Rifle & Pistol - Jeff Hague - 302-422-0233
- July 25 High Power Rifle - 9:00 a.m. - Standard Service & Match Branch Valley Fish Game & Forestry Assoc. 1000 North Ridge Rd- Perkasio, Pa - Bob Gular - 610-631-9630
- August 7 Rim Fire Rifle - Silhouette Match - Quinton Sportsman's Club - Gary Ireland - 856-296-4982
- August 29 Small Bore - 12:30 p.m. - 100 yd Prone Match 800 - Branch Valley Fish Game & Forestry Assoc. 1000 North Ridge Rd. - Perkasio, Pa - Chris Seitz - 215-541-4930
- August 29 High Power Rifle - 9:00 a.m. - Standard Service & Match Rifle - 30 shot M1 Carbine Match @ 50 yds. Branch Valley Fish Game & Forestry Assoc. Perkasio, Pa - Bob Gular - 610-631-9630

**SPORTING CLAYS**

- July 3 Fire Cracker Prelim - NSCA - Pintail Point - 410-827-7065
- July 4 Fire Cracker - NSCA 100 - Pintail Point - 410-827-7065
- July 4, 18 Fun Shoot - 50 Targets - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Last Sign Up 12:30 - Atglen Sportsmen's Club - Tim McClure 610-721-0114
- July 7, 14, 21, 28 5 Stand - 5pm to 8:30pm - Atglen Sportsmen's Club - Tim McClure - 610-721-0114
- July 10 Queen Anne County - Ducks Unlimited - 75 Birds - Schrader's Sporting Clays - 410-758-1824
- July 11 NWTF Shoot - NSCA 100 - Pintail Point - 410-827-7065
- July 18 Schrader's Open - NSCA 100 - Schrader's Sporting Clays - 410-758-1824
- July 25 Delaware State Tournament - NSCA 100 - Owens Station Sporting Clays - 302-349-4334
- August 1 New Castle County Ducks Unlimited - 75 Birds - Hopkin's Game Farm & Clays - 410-348-5287
- August 1, 15, 29 Fun Shoot - 50 Targets - 9a.m. to 2p.m. Last Sign up 12:30 - Atglen Sportsmen's Club-Tim McClure 610-721-0114
- August 4, 11, 18, 25 5 Stand - 5pm to 8:30pm- Atglen Sportsmen's Club - Tim McClure - 610-721-0114
- August 11 Lame Duck - Ducks Unlimited Shoot - 50 Birds - Owens Station Sporting Clays - 302-349-4334
- August 14 10th Annual Sudlersville Raritan - 50 Birds - Schrader's Sporting Clays - 410-758-1824
- August 15 Bay Hundred Ducks Unlimited - 75 Birds - Pintail Point - 410-827-7065
- August 15 Friends of Bob Walls - 50 Birds - Owens Station Sporting Clays - 302-349-4334
- August 21 Md State Prelim - NSCA ????? - Hopkin's Game Farm & Clays - 410-348-5287
- August 22 Md State Champinship - NSCA 100 - Hopkin's Game Farm & Clays - 410-348-5287
- August 29 Eastern/Western Shore Shootout - NSCA 100 - Schrader's Sporting Clays - 410-758-1824
- August 29 3rd Annual Endeavor Lodge - 50 Birds - Owens Station Sporting Clays - 302-349-4334

**TRAP**

- July 18 Eastern Zone Warm Up Shoot - Wilmington Trapshooting Assoc- Bill Trone- 302-534-9320
- August 1 Grand Warm Up Shoot - Bill Trone - 302-534-9320

## NO LONGER NECESSARY TO DISPLAY LICENSE

On April 8th House Bill 216 was signed into law eliminating the requirement that a person display a hunting, fishing or trapping license in a manner that is plainly visible. Now one must only have the license in possession.

House Bill 216 was sponsored by Representative Robert Walls of Milford and Senator George Bunting of Bethany Beach. Co-sponsors included Representatives John Adlkins, Brad Bennett, William Carson, Michael Mulrooney, William Oberly and Senators Joe Booth and Bruce Ennis.

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### DSSA Officers and Board Members

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## SAFETY'S RULE ONE

ALWAYS KEEP YOU MUZZLE POINTED

IN A SAFE DIRECTION

## Caution - Urban Legends Can Be Dangerous

By John C. Sigler, Esq.

I have been asked several times in recent weeks why a Delaware resident would want to go through the bureaucratic hassles of applying for a license to carry a concealed weapon under Delaware's discretionary "may issue" system, when it is so easy to obtain a license from a "shall issue" state such as Florida, a state with which Delaware has "reciprocity. After having this question posed to me on numerous occasions, and after reading several recent "letters to the editor" and perusing various internet postings concerning this issue, I felt compelled to write this column in the hope that otherwise law-abiding Delawareans would not fall victim to this potentially dangerous urban legend.

Yes, it is true that Delaware enjoys "concealed carry reciprocity" with Florida and several other states. And, yes, it is true that Florida and several other "shall issue" states allow non-residents to apply for and receive permits from those states. And, yes, it is true that Florida and several other states that issue concealed carry permits to non-residents do have reciprocity agreements with far more states than does Delaware. However, that is where the truth of this urban legend ends, and the danger of the "legend" begins.

Subsection (j) of Section 1441 of Title 11 of the Delaware Code reads in pertinent part as follows:

"...(T)he State of Delaware shall give full faith and credit and shall otherwise honor and give full force and effect to all licenses/permits **issued to the citizens of other states** where those issuing states also give full faith and credit and otherwise honor the licenses issued by the State of Delaware...." (Emphasis added).

Notice where the statute speaks in terms of licenses issued to citizens of other states.

While there appears to have been no reported cases interpreting subsection (j) of Section 1441, it would also appear from the plain language of the statute that a Delaware resident attempting to rely upon a Concealed Carry License/Permit issued by Florida or some other state and who does not hold a valid Delaware license issued pursuant to Section 1441 of Title 11 of the Delaware Code, places himself in grave peril of criminal prosecution and the potential for a felony conviction which would then make that Delaware resident a convicted felon and a "person prohibited", for life.

The bottom line is this: Unless and until the law is changed or a court rules to the contrary - or unless Delaware's Attorney General issues an AG's Opinion to the contrary - if you are a non-law enforcement resident of the State of Delaware and you want to carry a concealed deadly weapon in this State, you must have a valid Delaware Concealed Carry License.

Don't be the victim of an urban legend - obey the law, get a Delaware CCDW permit before you carry concealed in Delaware - it really isn't that hard. If you have questions concerning this matter, I strongly suggest that you seek legal counsel from a lawyer you trust.



**THE DELAWARE CHESAPEAKE FRIENDS OF  
NRA SPRING DINNER 2010**

**WOMEN ON TARGET**

The Delaware Chesapeake Friends of the NRA Annual Spring Dinner and Auction was held on Friday, April 9, 2010 at the Dover Modern Maturity Center. The dinner menu was roast beef, dumplings and gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, coleslaw and numerous assorted deserts.

The night started off with the posting of the colors presented by the Dover Air Force Base Honor Guard. From the first click of their heels until the last command was given approximately four hundred people stood at attention with pride at the professionalism displayed by the Guard. You could hear a pin drop.

The night was full of raffles, card games, duck bands, Teddy Roosevelt Bullets and the gun bash. The deal of the night was the game package with over \$120.00 worth of tickets and chances to win something. There was a silent auction with tables and tables of good deals to be had. There was a live auction with nineteen standard package items plus additional surprises. The highlight of the night was DSSA's NRA Tag 38 which was auctioned off for \$1200.00. Also, the NRA Copper Eagle Weathervane was auctioned off for \$800.00.

There were over 30 guns to be won or bid on. There was a .357 Taurus with custom NRA Rosewood grips, a Remington 870 Express, a Rossi TriFacta Youth with 20 GA/22LR/ and 243 Win Replacement Barrels, a NRA Glock Model 22-40 CAL. Pistol, a Savage 93R17HMR Cal., a Remington 700 SPS.300 Win. Mag., a Weatherby PA-08 Pump 12A Shotgun, a Kimber 308 Rifle and a Colt M4 TAK. The Raffle gun, was a JUDGE 45 Long Colt/.410 Shotgun Pistol. The lucky winner was Tom Kersey of Dover. Congratulations Tom.

Another highlight of the night was the Table of Guns. This is where an envelope is placed on each dinner table and anyone at the table who puts \$20.00 in the envelope and signs their name on the envelope, if the table number is drawn, everyone who participated wins a gun. You can also put your name in with \$20.00 at any other table. Table 47 was drawn and out of ten people only two of them participated. You can be sure the other eight are kicking themselves.

Congratulations to Margaret and Eddie Jewell, both lucky winners of a Remington 597.22LR. There were also three lucky winners of the NRA Gun Bash. Everyone was a winner in one way or another. Good food and good people, who think the way you do, make for a great night.

A special Thanks to the Delaware State Sportsmen's Association, Delaware Foundation For Legislative Action, Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club Inc., Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club, Inc., Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club, Ltd., Delaware State Pistol Club, Delmarva Sportsmen's Association, Inc. and a very Special Thanks to Brian Brown of Smyrna Sporting Goods for supporting us and being our FFL for the banquet.

Also a special thanks to Ben Twilley, our auctioneer, Ben, we could not do it without you. Don't forget you will have a second chance of winning some of the mentioned items, prizes and guns at the Fall Dinner at the Felton Fire Hall, serving their famous Felton Oyster Dinner. Only 250 tickets will be sold, so call Carolyn Thompson at 302-697-6769 to reserve a seat. The date is October 7, 2010, a Thursday night. Don't miss this event, it will be tremendous.

JimThompson, Property Officer, DSSA

On May 22, 2010 the DSSA held an NRA Women on Target event at the Delaware State Pistol Club in New Castle. Nineteen women, many who had never shot before, attended the presentation which ran from 9:00 am until 3:00 including lunch. First up was an introduction and safety presentation by Kathleen Kelly who is an NRA Training Counselor and member of the Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club in Elsmere. Each attendee was given individual instruction in the safe handling and shooting of handguns and rifles plus the opportunity to shoot the same in .22 caliber. After lunch the participants were given additional time to shoot not only the .22's but also some larger caliber handguns in .38, .40 and 9mm. Each attendee was given a goodie bag from the NRA which included a Women on Target visor, safety and membership pamphlets to which the DSSA added our newsletter, membership application and materials from local clubs regarding additional shooting opportunities.

The event was staffed by Kathleen Kelly, Maureen Polhemus, Madonia Nedza, Uni Stites, Deb Banville, Mark Garfinkel, John Thompson, Todd Morgan, Harvey Moore, Nathan Saunders, Frank Nedza, Jim Bowman and Jim Mutter. The SSA thanks all the volunteers and encourages any other club or organization that would be willing to host a Women on Target event in the future to contact us at [delsports.net](http://delsports.net).



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## DSSA NEWS

In our efforts to better serve our membership would you take the time to update your address and provide an e-mail, either mail to:

DSSA  
P.O. Box 94  
Lincoln, DE 19960

or email to: [dabll@comcast.net](mailto:dabll@comcast.net)

All information will be held in the strictest confidence and will not be given to any entity.

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 [lawman515@aol.com](mailto:lawman515@aol.com). 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](mailto:dabll@comcast.net) or 302-245-4822.

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