



# D.S.S.A. NEWS

DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION
Visit us on the web: DSSA.us
P.O. Box 94, Lincoln, DE 19960



#### **EVERYONE NEEDS A SHARP KNIFE**

By William Bell

So... you are a gun guy/gal. Bet you have more than one knife. I can't imagine going without one, or two. A sharp knife is a tool to be used making life easier, or safer. During the Second World War (WWII), American troops all wanted a personal knife and many millions were produced for the Armed Forces and aided our servicemen in securing our safety. Pictures abound of American GI's with some sort of knife as part of their gear, be it bayonet, sheath knife, deck knife or folding utility 'scout' type of knife. This need gave craftsmen throughout the country the opportunity to augment the need or desire of the field soldier. Some makers parlayed their skills into a competitive business that thrives today. Randall Knives is but one of these and a WWII copy can easily fetch \$1,000 today.



Schrade Folder,
TASCO copy of a Buck
110, Buck 110 from
the Custom Shop
Mother of Pearl, Buck
113 Sheath knife
Buck, Case, Kershaw
and Spyderco are just
a few of the current
makers that produce
knifes that give
yeomen's service to
the user with good
performance for the
money.

If you like cutlery the way I do, you have more than a few knives for each job you can perceive, one in each vehicle, boat and tool box. As much as I appreciate Firearms, design, function and comfort of knowing I have a dependable tool, I appreciate a good knife for the same reasons.

Where to acquire a good knife....? There are many products now on the market, made in foreign countries of dubious materials and quality that copy well known designs. The BUCK 110 for instance is probably the most imitated/copied design I can think of. I am reminded of a commercial for a 'Survival' Knife sold in the Rambo Years that was advertised as being made from "400 Series Molecular Stainless Steel", which is a way of saying it's made of the same steel cheap table ware is made from.... and for only \$9.95. As we get 'older' and find we can use/need a good dependable knife, we look for something that is appealing, comfortable and well made. You probably have seen the TV Series "Forged in Fire" and seen the test the maker's knives must endure. Custom handmade knives can easily approach \$300 to \$20,000. Are they worth the price? I guess it's all in the perspective of the consumer.

Bark River Knives (<a href="http://www.barkriverknives.com/index/">http://www.barkriverknives.com/index/</a>) produces a quality hunting knife or working knife in the \$200-400 range. I own several of their products and they are the sharpest, right out of the box knives you could want. Modern steels and heat treating combined with handle materials that will stand rough usage and sheathed in quality leather can be had that you would be proud to hand down to your children.

I recently (as of this June) attended the BLADE SHOW in Atlanta, Georgia for a magnificent knife show that featured most major manufactures, custom makers, engravers and used and antique knife dealers in the world. Manufacturers of grinding equipment were there demonstrating their wares as well as heat treating vendors and steel suppliers. Vendors from all over the world were present and totaled 750 plus with many more exhibitors filling out the convention hall. If you couldn't find what you wanted on the tables... someone could make it for you. Suffice to say, I came home very happy.

Walmart carries a selection of sporting knives as does CABELA's.... or you could go on line. In Delaware, there is a knife business in Greenwood, WILLEY KNIVES (willeyknives.com), who carries some of the best quality products on the market with exceptional sharpening services. Well-built / designed sharp knife is a safe knife... a tool that will make work easier and could save your life.



Custom handmade folder, CASE Trapper and QUEEN Outing Knife

Stag Handle Custom Handmade Hendrick CIRCA 1880 Buffalo skinning knife, CASE Axe Knife combo kit (1930)

### THE DANGER OF A FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY

By Dave Crout

It's easy to be vigilant when the threat is clear and present. Very few need to be reminded to bar the door and stand watch when the wolf is howling just outside. However, when the wolf has slipped into the shadows, just beyond our sight, is when it is most dangerous. So too is it with standing vigilant in defense of our cherished freedom. With a favorable administration in the White House and a majority in Congress, gun owners and Second Amendment protectors have put up their feet and pulled the brim of their hat down over their eyes. This will be our doom.

Believe me, I get it. After eight tough years of feeling like we've leaned back too far in our chair and are about to fall, we all want - and deserve a break. And we should take it, and celebrate our progress. But don't dare call it victory or think that the fight has subsided. Those who would gleefully outlaw any and all things firearms related before moving on to eliminate the remaining freedoms, have not given up. They are not hidden away licking their wounds and muttering, "I guess they beat us". No, indeed. They are funneling huge amounts of money into less noticeable political campaigns, funding mediadriven propaganda programs, and amassing their armies for the moment the tide turns. Don't believe me? How many minutes did it take after the recent shooting at a Congressional softball practice for cries of gun control to ring out? Not many. It was almost instantaneous - why? Because the wolf is hiding just out of view in the shadows, where he is watchful and hungry. And he does not sleep.

The gun control frenzy is always just one headline away. One tragedy. One high-profile crime committed by someone who chooses a firearm as an evil tool. When that bell rings, the antigunners are ready. They will spring into action with an organized and prepared movement that would be the envy of a SWAT team. And if we are sitting back with our feet up, we will find ourselves flat on our backs.

It is not the intention of this piece to sound like yet another fear-peddling cry of, "they're coming to get our guns!", but the truth is that they will be if they think they have the chance. What is really happening in the fight to steal your freedom is that it has moved from the National stage, where it cannot presently get any traction, to the states and cities. You need look no further than the Delaware Legislature to find some very sinister and ill-meaning bills circulating the halls and even being presented for vote. Even as I am writing this, Delaware lawmakers have proposed HB 222, which aims to empower the police to confiscate your guns because "someone says" you might be a threat to yourself or others, or if the police themselves feel that is the case. No computer is capable of calculating a number high enough to approximate the ways that can be abused. As always, the evil intent is wrapped in sweet language and "feel good" justification. "It is to help prevent suicide or violent abuse", you'll hear. The problem is the proposed law completely bypasses due process, the very cornerstone of our constitutionally protected freedoms. Police will always err on the side of "safety" and avoidance of liability, and any hint of accusation is likely to result in gun confiscation. There is no requirement for them to show evidence or cause. In fact, it will be up to you to prove (at some later date) to the court that you should get your guns back. This is no slippery slope – it is an ice-covered cliff. Thankfully, it appears that this bill will not even go to a vote - thanks in large part to the efforts of DSSA.

The story is repeated in state after state, and in major cities and counties across America. The anti-gunners are well funded and well organized. They know how to spin a story in the media (because in most cases, they *are* the media), and if they can erode freedom at the city, county, and state levels enough it won't matter what the Federal laws are.

What can you do? Stay vigilant. Quiet is not our friend. When the war drums stop beating is when the real danger is coming. Don't think that having Donald Trump in the oval office is going to stop your local legislators from passing bad gun laws. In fact, the opposite is likely to be true. The Delaware Democrat leadership has brazenly listed "resisting the Trump agenda" as a key action item. Let that sink in. If you're reading this, it is most likely because you are a DSSA member. Good – and thank you! But that's not enough. You need to be sure your representatives in Legislative Hall know where you stand on gun rights, and were you expect them to stand. Make phone calls, send emails, write a letter. Keep the conversation going with your family and friends who might not be as tuned in to the issues. Be an advocate and good example of gun

ownership. If you can give an extra few bucks to DSSA, NRA ILA, or other gun rights protectors you should – but your voice and your vote are the most important weapons you have against the wolf lurking in the shadows.



# Sean A. Hudson

Of Milford, Delaware passed away Saturday, June 17, 2017 at his residence.

Mr. Hudson was born on May 5, 1983 to Keith and Terri Hudson at Milford Memorial Hospital.

After graduating in 2001 from Milford Senior High School, he attended Frostburg State University where he graduated with honors with a degree in Computer Science. While at Frostburg, Sean became a brother of the Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity.

Sean worked for Milford Parks and Recreation, before being hired by Harrington Police Department in 2010. He attended Wilmington Police Academy graduating in August 2010 at which time he was honored with an academic award for having achieved the second highest grades in his class. In 2012, Harrington Police Department awarded him with the "Officer of the Year" award.

Sean left Harrington in 2016 to work for the Milford Police Department. In December 2016, Officer Hudson was recognized by Chief Kenneth Brown for his successful lifesaving efforts, and was promoted to PFC on February 14, 2017. He was a member of the NRA, Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club, Southern Sportsman Association, General Teamsters Local 326 and an associate member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police.

Sean loved watching the New York Yankees, the Washington Redskins and was a fan of the University of Wisconsin Badgers, which was very close to his heart due to his grandfather being from Wisconsin. He also enjoyed playing golf with family and friends. Most of all, he loved spending time with his family.

Sean was preceded in death by his grandparents William and Corinne Kohel, Pete and Gertrude Hudson and his Special Uncle and Aunt Frank and Marilyn Jefferson.

He is survived by his loving wife Sara Hudson (nee Thomas) and his son Parker whom he was extremely proud of.

He is also survived by his parents Keith and Terri (Teresa) Hudson (nee Kohel), sister Megan Howard and her husband Eli, uncles Mike Kohel and his wife Phyllis, George (Sonny) Hudson and his wife Kay, all of Milford, aunt Cynthia Dukes and her husband Don of Lewes, his mother-in-law Debbie Handges, grandfather and grandmother in-law Donald and Lois Coffman, sister-in-law Beth Scott and her husband Mike, brother-in-law A.J. Handges, all of Magnolia, nieces and nephews Sadie Howard, Lauren Scott, Michael Scott, and cousins Kenneth Brown, Carol Mitchell, Kim Pierson, Tim Hudson, Jeff Kohel, Stacy Greenly-Teat, Melissa Dukes Winsett and Donnie Dukes and many second cousins.

# **SAFETY ISSUE - RE-LOADERS BEWARE**

By Roger Boyce

Recently we had a safety incident at the **Delaware Rifle and Pistol** range involving a reloaded cartridge. A member was practicing when he experienced a major failure. The member was shooting a, 40 Caliber, 165 grain copper jacket bullet using 4.5 grains of Titegroup powder. Upon firing, the cartridge exploded and the case head partially separated. The primer cup was blown out of the case. Most of the pressure released went through the magazine, blowing the magazine base plate onto the floor along with the magazine spring, follower, and unused ammunition. Fortunately, the ammunition in the magazine tolerated the event.



The gun was an STI Edge. Fortunately, the slide stayed intact and the shooter was not injured. The gun did receive a cracked frame. Needless to say, it got the attention of the shooter.

Case head and primer blown out. Polymer frame separated.

Cartridge found on floor with compress bullet

So, what happen? At this point we can only speculate but conventional wisdom points to two most likely possibilities:

 A double charge. This happens when during the reloading sequence, the measured powder charge is dropped into the same case twice. This can happen much easier that one would think. Upon a primer strike, the powder burns for a longer period of time (due to more powder available to burn) which results in an over pressure explosion as opposed to a normal burn rate and controlled pressure rise. If the pressure rise is high enough, it can cause the failure of various parts of the gun.

2. Compressed charge. This is where the volume of the cartridge case is reduced to a critical point which results in an overpressure when ignited. How could this happen? Again, it is speculated that during the reloading process the case crimping stage (crimping the case against the bullet to secure the bullet in place) may not have been completed properly. As a result, the bullet may have been driven back into the case (from inertia) as the cartridge was being stripped from the magazine, driven up the feed ramp and into the chamber. This reduced the volume of the case which dramatically changes burning characteristics of the powder and a resultant faster and higher-pressure rise.

These are not new discoveries. They are not common occurrences. But they do happen. In most cases it is considered an operator error more so than a mechanical error. Can this happen with factory ammunition? Yes, but due to good quality control it is very rare.

Reloading is a fascinating part of the shooting sports and requires a very conscientious operator to preform properly and safely. Even then, errors can occur. Proper safety equipment, good gun handling and a little luck kept this shooter free from injury. Let's pay special attention when we are doing any reloading operation. If there is any question during the sequencing, pull the cartridge(s) and dismantle safely. It isn't worth the risk.

If you have any thoughts or comments, we would like to hear them. Please direct comments to <a href="mailto:rogerb@systemsapproachltd.com">rogerb@systemsapproachltd.com</a>.

### **BIG CHANGES AT NRA**

By NRA Past President John C. Sigler

By now many of you have heard that there have been some rather dramatic changes at NRA, both within staff and on the Board. In another article in this edition of DSSA News you learned that we have a new president, Pete Brownell. And, as you probably guessed, our good friend Richard Childress is now our new 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – you will remember that Richard was our keynote speaker last September at our DSSA Second Amendment Freedom Banquet. Our new 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President is Mrs. Carolyn D. Meadows of Marietta, Georgia. Carolyn is a long-time member of the NRA Board and Georgia's former Republican National Committeewoman. Long-time Board members Dr. David Bennett (New Mexico), Bill Dailey formerly of Illinois & now New Mexico), and Bill Carter,

(formerly of Texas & now Kentucky), all retired from the NRA Board. Additionally, you will remember that our good friend Roy Innis passed away and our other good friend and frequent Delaware visitor, Gov. Jim Gillmore, was defeated in the elections. Several new members were elected to the Board to take their slots.

But the really big changes have been at the staff level, and that's the real purpose of this article – to introduce you to the new Executive Director of General Operations, Mr. Josh Powell.

As I am sure you are well aware, under the NRA Bylaws, the Executive Director of General Operations reports directly to the Executive Vice President of NRA, Wayne LaPierre, and succeeds the EVP should that become necessary in an emergency – so the Executive Director of General Operations is a very important, critical and powerful position within NRA's corporate structure. And of course, all the various non-political programs within NRA with which we are all so very familiar fall within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Executive Director of General Operations – everything from Education and Training, to Competitions, Eddie Eagle, Refuse to Be a Victim, Womenon-Target, to the NRA Museums, the Youth Hunter Education Challenge (YHEC) and the Youth Education Summit (YES) Program, and to Friends of NRA, and much, much more. So, let's meet Josh Powell - Executive Director of General Operations.



Josh Powell Executive Director of NRA General Operations

Josh Powell originally joined our "NRA Official Family" as a member of the NRA Board of Directors in 2014. Josh was the founder of J.L. Powell Sporting Goods and is an internationally ranked shotgun competitor. Josh was the founder and leader of the pro-gun "Freedom to Choose PAC" which helped to successfully pass Concealed Carry legislation in Illinois. Through his successful efforts in Illinois championing pro-Second Amendment causes as civil rights issues, Josh demonstrated that we must capitalize on reaching younger pro-gun activists and shooters through social media, ultimately developing support within the City of Chicago for successful passage of Concealed Carry legislation.

Last Fall, Wayne LaPierre convinced Josh to leave the private commercial sector and to join his team at NRA Headquarters as his new Chief of Staff. Then earlier this year, when the General Operations position became vacant, Wayne named Josh as the new Executive Director of General Operations with a mandate to "fix it"! With several key members of the General Operations management team poised for retirement the timing was perfect for the introduction of a change agent like Mr. Powell. Since then, Josh has been busy re-organizing and giving new and renewed direction, focus and energy to NRA General Operations.

Josh has already dealt with some of the issues that had arisen within the Education and Training Department and many of you who are instructors have Josh to thank for those muchneeded changes. Many of you are already familiar with the new NRA Carry Guard Program – you can thank Josh for the successful launch of this new and exciting initiative as well.

As a competitive shooter himself, albeit in other areas, Josh is fully committed to rebuilding and revitalizing the Competitions Division - rebuilding and revitalizing the traditional NRA precision shooting disciplines while making NRA Competitions more attractive to the younger competitor who may be more interested in tactical, self-defense and home-defense related disciplines. You can look forward to the introduction of a number of new and innovative competitive shooting programs, both in this arena and as additions to existing NRA precision shooting programs. You can also look for Josh to field a wide array of new and exciting programs designed to get NRA's younger members "off the couch and on the range" and to bring those younger members into the world of Second Amendment activists.

I hope that all of you will join me in welcoming Josh Powell to our extended NRA and DSSA family and that you will join the leadership of DSSA in pledging to Josh our full cooperation and support as DSSA executes its role as NRA's official state affiliate in Delaware.

# **NEW NRA PRESIDENT**

On Monday, May 1, 2017, Pete R. Brownell of Montezuma, Iowa became NRA's 64<sup>th</sup> President. Pete previously served two terms as NRA's 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President and two terms as NRA's 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President. During his time on the NRA Board of Directors Pete has served as Chairman of the Membership Committee, Vice Chairman of the Jeanne E. Bray Memorial Scholarship Fund and as a member of the Finance Committee, the Law Enforcement Assistance Committee, the Range Development Committee, Publications Committee, the Task Force on Industry Relations, and the Sport Shooting Committee. Pete has also been a member of the Executive Committee which he will now chair in his capacity as NRA President.



Pete R. Brownell

Many of you will recognize Pete as the CEO of Brownells, the world's largest gun parts, tools, shooting supplies and ammunition sellers. President Brownell is also a shooting range and hunting preserve owner, focusing on youth training, scholastic trap and skeet and law enforcement training. He is an FFL holder. Pete is an avid big game hunter both here in the United States and throughout the world.

Pete is a former trustee of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Foundation, an NRA Benefactor member, and a member of USPSA, IDPA, SCI, ATA, and the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation.

### **DSSA EDITORIAL COMMENT:**



# WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN TO YOUR GUNS AFTER YOU'RE GONE?

By Vickie Prickett

As I get older, I gain more perspective on longevity and mortality. It is not a topic that most of us want to think about. But as gun owners, our own mortality is something we really need to think about. Obviously, most DSSA members own firearms and many have extensive collections. While it is always important to have end-of-life plans in place, firearms handling may require more specific considerations. I have noticed an unsettling trend: Multiple gun owners have passed away without a will in place to provide specific instructions about how their gun collection should be dispersed. It is just sad to see a collection that has taken a lifetime to assemble disposed of in a way that would not be in line with the owner's wishes. In multiple instances where gun owners do not have adult children who share their passion for firearms or the shooting sports, the gun owner simply asks a good friend and fellow gun owner to make a promise. That promise is to assist the heirs with the disposition of the gun collection. The friend, who is invariably a very knowledgeable gun collector in their own right, agrees to help the family in the event of the gun owner's death. That gentlemen's agreement is always made in good faith and often includes an informal list of guns that should go to certain friends, or specific guns that should stay together. The other goal is to ensure that no one takes advantage of the heirs. The problem is that gentlemen's agreements are not legally binding.

What seems to actually happen is that once the surviving family members are actually dealing with the estate, they understandably want to handle everything in the easiest, fastest way possible. These survivors are grieving and dealing with banks, insurance companies, mortgage holders, etc. To those of you reading this article, the disposition of a gun collection would be a priority, but when the heirs are not gun collectors, they may not see the collection the way we do. They may look at it as a cumbersome legal liability; however, they may understand the monetary value. Often a quick and easy solution is much more palatable to them than having the friend of a parent take a lot of time to pouring through a collection. That is where local gun shops may get involved. Those businesses are often in a position to make an offer on the entire collection. The collection would obviously be bought for resale purposes; therefore, the family will not get retail value. That may be fine; it is simply a trade-off of time savings and convenience versus money. Expediency is a valid benefit of this approach. Absolutely nothing is wrong with a dealer purchasing the collection as a whole, if it is what the gun owner wanted. Unfortunately, the gun owner often wants that trusted friend to handle the collection, but the heirs may not agree.

There is a solution. As holds true for any part of an estate, the gun owner needs to have a will in place detailing his or her wishes. If you are in this situation, please obtain the proper legal advice and make a will so that your wishes are honored. You may also want to explore the NRA's Firearms for Freedom donation program by visiting their website at <a href="https://www.nrafff.com">www.nrafff.com</a> or calling 855-4NRA-FFF.

# **UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE TRAP & SKEET TEAM**

By Mark Carlson

The University of Delaware Trap & Skeet Team was started in 2008 by a group of interested students. It is classified as a Club Sport by the school. Members of the team are broken up into 2 groups, competitive shooters and recreational shooters. The competitive shooters travel to events hosted by other schools, ranging from Chestertown MD to Jacksonville FL. Each year the team travels to the National Shooting Complex in San Antonio, TX for the ACUI (Association of College Unions International. circa 1914) Collegiate Clav Target Championships. Last year 700 students from 76 schools attended the competition in its 45th year.

The team officers comprise of a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and secretary. There is no coach or active adult advisor. As a Club Sport Team, there is little financial support from the school (a characteristic of Club Sports), so the Team relies on Grants and Fundraisers, plus team members paying their own way.

All are welcome, with multiple members never having fired a gun before. Practices are held at Wilmington Trap Association in Newark DE and Oxford Gun Club in Oxford PA. Members pay a per round fee. Shotgun shells are provided both by members and by the Team, mostly from grants provided by the Delaware Friends of the NRA.

# UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE TRAP & SKEET TEAM SPORTING CLAYS BENEFIT SHOOT

June 4, 2017: The University of Delaware Trap & Skeet team held a Sporting Clays Shoot to benefit the Team. The event drew 64 Shooters of all ages and abilities. Shooters were on the course by 9:00 AM and all were finished by 12:00 at which time lunch was served. It was a Lewis Class event with prizes awarded to the top 3 finishers in each class, plus a youth winner. CVA muzzle loaders were given to the 1<sup>st</sup> place winner in each class and the youth winner. The Door Prize, with all shooters eligible was a CVA muzzle loader with 3-9 riflescope.

It was the inaugural event and will be an annual fundraiser for the Team.

### A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN.

The DSSA appreciates each and every member and your dedication and support. It is important for DSSA to communicate information to each member in a timely manner and this can only be done with proper up to date information. PLEASE ... check the spelling of your name. Is the address correct? Is the phone number correct? Is the email current and correct? Let us know when this vitally important information changes.

Members move and change phone numbers and email addresses... we can't contact you if we don't have the correct information.

PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE OR TAPE CHECK TO APPLICATION. Be sure to make the check out to <u>Delaware State Sportsman's Association</u> OR simply <u>DSSA</u>. Do Not make the check out to any other member of the Board. Thank you for your support.

# **DELAWARE FRIENDS OF THE NRA**

The Delaware Friends of the NRA dates back to the early 2000's. It is a committee of individuals who desire to promote education, safety, and training of the shooting sports. We hold 2 events each year. This raises funds to support many types of programs. We have given grants for Range Improvements, 4H Clubs, Boy Scout Shooting Programs, Collegiate Shooting Teams, & High School Air Gun Programs.

We are looking for volunteers to assist us. It is not a big commitment. We ask that you sell tickets to the event, attend some Committee meetings, and work at each event. You can contact our event line at 302-672-8129

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Well the Legislative session has finally come to a close. This issue was delayed in the hopes that there might be, not only good news, but some very good news on the legislative front. Unfortunately, I can only report good news. There was no legislation passed by either the House of the Senate that will negatively affect our constitutional rights here in Delaware.

The budget deficit took up some much time and effort that legislators did not have time to undermine our rights. There were some half-hearted attempts but they failed.

The long-awaited version of the Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence (DECAGV) lethal violence protection order was introduced late in the session as HB 222. Due to the efforts of our members and a call to action by the NRA, efforts to move the bill forward were abandoned even before the committee hearing was held.

Rep. Sean Lynn introduced another ivory ban that we were able to block from even having a hearing in committee. However, he will be back.

While we were successful in blocking legislation that would adversely affect the sportsmen of Delaware, we were not able to advance legislation that would benefit the sportsmen and gun owners of the state.

Rep. Jeff Spiegelman, one of the prime sponsors of two Delaware Sportsmen's Caucus bills saw his efforts to advance them thwarted by the House Majority Leader, Rep. Valerie Longhurst. The bills would clean-up the calibers of handguns that can be used for deer hunting as well as allow the use of rifles chambered in those calibers during the same season (HB's 156 and 157). There was no opposition to the legislation in either chamber, but Rep. Longhurst refused to allow them to be considered on the floor of the House for a vote. She also held up SB 31, sponsored by Sen. Simpson and Rep. Outten, that would allow farmer with deer crop depravation permits to use handguns.

There was one major piece of legislation that the DSSA and the NRA crafted this session and that dealt with the restructuring of the Concealed Carry Permit system. Early in the session we learned that the Dept. of Justice and the Courts did not wish to continue the processing of CCDW applications and renewals. Over the next several months the DSSA and NRA drafted legislation that would create an independent commission that would be responsible for the issuing and renewal of CCDW applications. The bill was finally introduced, HB 232, in June. It was released from a House Committee hearing unanimously shortly thereafter. Due to the budget problems and the partisan politics that permeated the Legislature, we were not able to get a vote on the bill. However, since the legislature will be returning in January of 2018, rest assured that we will be fighting to get the bill passed.

Several other initiatives that we have deal with allowing private ownership of suppressors, mental health reforms as it impacts ownership of firearms, legalization of air guns larger than .177 and a couple of more.

Overall, this recently ended legislation session was pretty quiet. While there were many interesting legislative fights going on, none adversely impacted our rights.

### **Call for Articles**

Would you like to be published in the DSSA News Letter? Publicize your Club's activities or special events. Found a great article that you want to share with Delaware Sportsmen?

Please send your article or special event to: Roger T. Boyce, Vice President DSSA <u>rogerb@systemsapproachltd.com</u>