



**AFFILIATED WITH THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION
A PUBLICATION OF THE DELAWARE STATE SPORTSMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

**Visit us on the web: DSSA.us
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Let me start out by thanking everyone that attended our dinner on March 1st at the Modern Maturity Center in Dover. Over 500 patriots got together and celebrated our rights. The speaker for the evening, Stephen Halbrook, is a national known Second Amendment lawyer. He has argued cases in the U.S. Supreme Court and has participated in numerous amicus briefs on our behalf in our challenges to illegal Delaware laws. There were numerous items for the silent and live auction, for which I would like to thank the donors and sponsors. I would also like to thank all those that helped make the event a success. These fund raisers are the primary method we use to fund the various lawsuits.

Now, to the other news. "Permit to Purchase". It finally happened. After almost 5 years of holding off this legislation and various versions of it, the Senate, on Thursday, March 14, 2024, passed the final version of SS 1 for SB 2, w/HA 2, HA 6, HA 10 and HA 11. As expected the vote was along party lines.

The week before, the House amended the bill with the 4 listed amendments. House Republicans attached 7 amendments in an attempt to clarify many of the unclear requirements of the bill. They were successful in passing one amendment, HA 6. That amendment added a list of people who, because of training or employment, already fulfilled the training requirements of the legislation. However, Democrats added HA 11 which exempted those on the list only if the firearm training undertaken pursuant to their employment meets all the requirements. Despite numerous attempts to alert the sponsor that not all of those on the list had employers, it was passed.

The Senate Republicans attempted to place 13 amendments on the bill, but to no avail. All the amendments failed by party line vote, 15 no to 6 yes. The Democrats even defeated an amendment that would remove gender as one of the questions on the application. I thought in today's woke world one was not permitted to ask someone their gender. The sponsor Sen. Lockman continually read from a script that said it was time we send this bill to the governor. It has been around 5 years and these amendments could have been

presented earlier. The only problem with that statement is that we were told, "no amendments".

I would like to take this time to thank the Republican caucuses in both the House and Senate for standing up for all of our rights and attempting to keep extremely bad legislation from passing. All of them went to extraordinary lengths to try and protect our god given rights. Please, take the time to thank each and every one of them.

So, what does this mean? As soon as practical following the governor signing this atrocity, which he stated he was looking forward to, DSSA will file a federal lawsuit challenging this legislation.

The bill has a delayed implementation date of 18 months or until notice is published in the Register of Regulations that the processes and procedures are ready, whichever comes first.

What transpired in the last couple of weeks shows that good policy is no longer the standard for legislation, pure politics is.

DSSA will do whatever it takes to show these various anti-rights organizations that their approach will not have any impact on violent crime, straw purchases or suicides. As I have mentioned here and in numerous hearings in the General Assembly, it is not the object that causes crime it is the person. This bill does nothing to stop crime.

This is the first time in our history that a law-abiding citizen has to ask permission from an unelected, appointed, government official to exercise one of our god given constitutional rights.

This legislation shows that Delaware is one of the extremist states when it comes to curtailing our constitutional rights. Only 9 or 10 other states have permitting schemes of this type. Contrary to the statements of our illustrious Attorney General, other states are not doing this. In fact, North Carolina just abandoned their permitting scheme because it was reminiscent of the old Jim Crowe laws. At last count 29 states have instituted constitutional carry. Those states have it right. We have it wrong.

When you get a chance ask the Attorney General who is paying to defend the other lawsuits that DSSA has filed

against the semi-auto ban and magazine capacity ban. You might be surprised that outside groups are funding the legal fees. The attorneys representing the state are doing it for free. If you believe that I have a bridge for sale.

Jeff Hague, President

Opinion: On Finland's new ranges, Puukko knives and Sisu

By: Lee Williams (The Gunwriter)
<https://thegunwriter.substack.com>

When Soviet Red Army troops poured across the Finnish frontier three months after the outbreak of World War II, Simo Häyhä, a farmer and member of Finland's Civil Guard, laid down his pitchfork, picked up his M28-30 Mosin Nagant, jammed his Puukko knife in his belt and calmly went out to kill communists.



Finnish sniper Simo Häyhä is credited with killing more than 540 Soviet troops during the Winter War of 1939-1940.

Häyhä shot more than 540 Red Army troops in just three months — most using iron sights — becoming the most successful sniper in history. Häyhä survived the Winter War, died at the age of 96 and remains one of Finland's most celebrated national heroes.

Today, Finland maintains a tradition of arms seldom seen outside of the United States. There are approximately 1.5 million registered firearms, but it is estimated there are about the same number of unregistered firearms, which were secretly cached after World War II and the Winter War. The Finns cannot afford to be disarmed, which even their government understands. Their country of 5.6 million people shares an 830-mile border with Russia, which has a population of 143 million, so the Finns can never stop preparing to fight the Russian Bear.

Tensions escalated last year after Finland joined NATO. Russian saw this as a threat and vowed to retaliate. The government in Helsinki took this very seriously. Unlike the Biden-Harris administration, which views law-abiding American gun owners as a threat, Finland incorporates armed civilians into its national defense strategy, so they decided to boost civilian firearm training to help counter the latest Russian threat.

According to the Guardian, the Finnish Defense Forces started by building 300 additional shooting ranges to “encourage more citizens to take up the hobby in the interest of national defense.”

“The present government aims to increase the amount of shooting ranges in Finland from roughly 600-700 up to 1,000. This is because of our defense model, which benefits from people having and developing their shooting skills on their own,” Jukka Kopra, a Minister of Parliament who chairs the country's defense committee told the British newspaper. A government spokesman added that the new construction will include “rifle” and “tactical” ranges.

Takeaways

There was a time when our government valued American riflemen and built ranges for civilian use. Sadly, this is a tradition maintained by only a handful of states.

Nowadays, the Biden-Harris administration sees lawfully armed Americans as the enemy, and they are doing everything they can to strip us of our rifles. One has to wonder why, especially now.

While we do not share an 830-mile border with Russia, our porous southern border is an open invitation to any group or government seeking to do us harm, whether they be 20,000 military-age males from China or untold thousands from countries that sponsor terrorism.

Armed civilians are a strategic resource — a force multiplier that should be part of any national defensive plan. It is unfortunate that the Biden-Harris administration is either too arrogant or too ignorant to see this, and that they remain fixated on total civilian disarmament instead.

Finland gets it. But unlike our current leadership, they're a pragmatic people. To understand this, one only has to look at their traditional Puukko knife, which is a simple, straightforward design that has been part of the Finnish culture — its very soul — for more than a thousand years. Of course, the Finns would include armed civilians in their defensive planning. To do otherwise would be senseless and a waste of valuable human resources.



One of the author's Puukko knives. (Photo courtesy of the author.)

Sisu is a Finnish word that doesn't translate well. It's generally understood to mean "guts" or "intestinal fortitude" or the inability to quit even when pushed far beyond one's normal physical limitations. Actually, it means much more. *Sisu* is tenacity, raw angry power, the ability to keep going no matter the pain, personal loss or extreme hardship. It's the willingness to spit in death's eye and enjoy it. *Sisu* is a lifestyle.

I've never written about *Sisu* before in the dozen or so years I've been doing this, but as someone with Finnish blood pumping through their veins, it always comes to mind whenever I hear the gun-controllers prattle on about banning this or confiscating that. They don't understand that regardless of the legislation they introduce or the room-temperature IQs of the dunces who sign their bills into law, all they will ever receive in return is a large heady dose of American *Sisu*. Most gun owners get this, even those who haven't incorporated a Puukko into their EDC.

The Finnish model works. It would work here. Besides, rifle ranges are much cheaper than an attack by some of our uninvited guests, especially if no one is armed, trained and willing to stop it.

A VERY Cool way to waste a few hours –or days...

This link will take you to digitized copies of the American Rifleman from 1924-1941.

<https://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/serial?id=amerifle>

A big thank you to Mike Powers, who brought it to my attention.

High Power Report

By: Frank Nedza

Not really much to 'report' at the moment, but there IS good news –High Power Season is almost upon us here in Delaware. Though many of our shooters have already started their season at the Southwest Nationals, the official start of the Delaware (Bridgeville) High Power season begins with an open practice/coaching/fun match session on Saturday, March 23rd, followed by a 3 x 600 Mid-Range Match on Sunday, March 24th. I hope to see friends old, new, and just met on the firing line!

Competition Calendar

Bridgeville Rifle and Pistol Club

<https://brpc-de.com/>

IDPA/Galactic Pistol Shoots:

Every Wednesday morning ~ 8AM
First and Third Saturday of each month
<https://brpc-de.com/idpa/>

Cowboy Action Shoots:

Third Sunday of each month.
<https://brpc-de.com/cowboy-action/>

High Power Rifle Shoots:

Mid-Range Prone –second weekend of each month from March to November.
Long-Range Prone: –fourth weekend of each month from March to November.
<https://brpc-de.com/high-power-rifle/>

Benchrest Rifle Shoots:

Third Sunday of each month.
<https://brpc-de.com/international-benchrest-shooters/>

Nanticoke Sportsmen's Club

<http://shootnsc.org>

Trap Shoots

Every Wednesday @ Sunset

Steel Challenge

Third Sunday of each month

Indoor Archery

Tuesday 6-9PM
Sunday Noon-2PM

Indoor Pistol

First and Second Mondays 6-9 PM

Black Powder

First Saturday (45/70) 9:30 AM
Third Saturday (ML Rifle) 9:30 AM

Delaware Rifle and Pistol Club

<https://delawarerifleandpistolclub.wildapricot.org>

Metallic Silhouette League

Monday Nights at 6:30 P.M.

Bullseye League

Tuesday Nights at 7 P.M.

In Case You Missed It.

By: Vickie Prickett

Play Stupid Games, Win Stupid Prizes...

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/oklahoma-woman-shoots-kills-man-who-broke-into-her-home-police>

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/mississippi-mom-3-shoots-knife-wielding-home-intruder-act-bravery-police-say>

Preventing Abuse of the MCC (Merchant Category Code)

https://www.thecentersquare.com/national/article_144bde0a-d290-11ee-abfe-0bc4e2f924f0.amp.html

Retired LEO's and Concealed Carry in New Jersey

<https://apbweb.com/2024/02/federal-court-rules-in-favor-of-retired-police-officers-concealed-carry-rights-in-new-jersey/>

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:

Carll Human, Vice President. DSSA

alien63@comcast.net
