



Tactical Talk

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All New Website!

We recently updated and revamped our website. The new version has expanded content and is much easier to navigate. There are numerous photo and video galleries, tons of information about classes and other activities, class reviews written by students around the country, newsletter archives, and so much more.

Also, the registration form and waiver for the 2015 Tactical Conference are now on the website, allowing electronic registration and payment. This saves you time and effort. The Tactical Conference fills several months in advance, so take advantage of this technology now so you won't be left behind.

See www.rangemaster.com or rangemaster.com and check out our new home.

Carry Every Day? *by Tom Givens*

Every now and then, someone asks me, "Why do you think it is necessary to carry a pistol all the time, everywhere? On most days, at the end of the day you have not needed the gun, so carrying it was a wasted effort." This is a fairly common attitude among folks who have simply not thought through the problem.

Let's say that, unknown to you, you are going to need your gun to stay alive next Tuesday evening at 9:30 p.m. The fact that you have not needed your gun on a single day of your life up until then has no bearing at all on how badly you will need it next Tuesday! Since you don't know you will need it next Tuesday, how will you be assured of having it handy? Of course, the answer is to always have it handy.

Here is another way to look at it. Let's say you are 40 years old. That means that you have lived over 14,600 days so far. You have not died on any one of those days. I can assure you, however, that one fine day you will, in fact, die. Right now, you don't know which day that will be. The fact that you have not died a single time so far does not in any way reduce the odds that you will one day die. The same holds true for violent crime. The fact that you have not been raped, crippled or murdered, so far, has nothing to do with whatever is going to happen in the future.

The only way to have your gun on the day you desperately need it, is to have it every day.

Inside this issue:

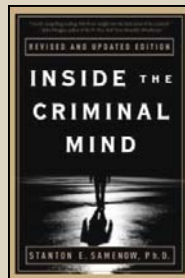
<i>Recommended Reading</i>	2
<i>Order Form</i>	3
<i>Home Invasion</i>	4
<i>Violent Crime</i>	6
<i>Law of Self-Defense</i>	8
<i>Quotes</i>	10
<i>A Girl and A Gun</i>	12



Relay shoots the "casino Drill" at our Combative Pistol I class in Athens, GA in March. Great bunch of guys and girls.

Recommended Reading

I highly recommend *Inside the Criminal Mind*, by Stanton E. Samenow, Ph.D. (The Revised and Updated Edition). The original version of this book was published in 1984, and became a best-seller. The work was updated in 2004, after Samenow had an additional 20 years of experience in researching criminal behavior. John Douglas was one of the original profilers in the FBI Behavioral Sciences Unit, and he had this to say about *Inside the Criminal Mind*, "Utterly compelling reading, full of raw insight into the dark mind of the criminal."



Samenow carefully destroys the delusional theories about why people become criminals, and comes to the conclusion that career criminals choose to live outside the law. Criminals think differently than do ordinary people, and they have a diametrically different world view. In order to deal with criminals successfully, one has to understand what makes them tick and how they think. I just checked Amazon.com and this excellent book is available used for as little as \$10.00. Highly recommended!



Lynn poses with two very happy lady students at our CP1 in Athens.

Driver's Licenses When You Change States

From time to time, customers attempt to buy a handgun from us, or attend the Handgun Carry Permit class and present us with a driver's license from another state. Invariably, they say that they moved to Tennessee some time ago but just haven't changed their driver's license. You should be aware that failing to change your driver's license is an offense, for which you can get a hefty fine. Here are the requirements, straight from the Tennessee Department of Safety website. **Department of Safety**

New Residents

New residents or those returning to Tennessee and holding a driver license from another state must obtain a Tennessee driver license **no later than thirty (30) days** after establishing residency. New residents will need to go to any of our full-service driver service centers that are located throughout the state. New residents holding a valid learner's permit from another state must meet separate requirements to obtain a Tennessee learner permit or driver license.

Requirements

- All new or returning residents must surrender their out-of-state license at time of application for Tennessee license. Tennessee law does not allow a resident of this state to hold more than one valid driver license or ID. Only foreign country licenses/IDs may be retained.
- All new or returning residents must take a Tennessee vision screening at the full-service driver service center. There are additional requirements for commercial driver license holders.
- New or returning residents whose out of state license has been expired for more than six months must take the Tennessee knowledge exam, road skills test, and vision screening.
- New residents from other countries are required to take full tests: vision screening, knowledge exam, and road skills test. They will be allowed to keep the license issued by that country.



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Home Invasion

By Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper

Any criminal encounter is frightening be it on a parking lot, in a place of business or walking down a street. Yet the very thought of needing to defend yourself and your family in your home frightens people to their very core. Your home is the place of refuge - your castle - and the thought of people violating that space to rob, rape, and/or murder will chill any person.

Home Invasion: A new crime?

Unlike kidnapping or forcible rape, there is no federal crime known as "Home Invasion." Only a handful of jurisdictions - a few states and one known municipality - have "Home Invasion" statues. While what we call Home Invasion has received much attention of late, it is not a new crime, quite likely being perpetrated for decades if not centuries.

The first media reference to Home Invasion was mentioned in the Washington Post in 1912 and another in the Los Angeles Times in 1925. Those references put some structure around what we now know as Home Invasion.

Perhaps, the most famous crime that would be classified as a home invasion was detailed in Truman Capote's book and the subsequent movie, *In Cold Blood*. In 1959, the 4-members of the Clutter family of Holcomb, KS were murdered in what started out as a robbery. The perpetrators - career criminals and on parole - were not charged with "Home Invasion" but murder and were convicted and executed.

In 1966, Richard Speck broke into a house on Chicago's South Side that was occupied by student nurses. He proceeded to systematically rape and murder 8 of the residents. Speck was convicted and died while serving life sentences for rape and murder but there were no Home Invasion charges.

More recently, two paroled criminals were charged and convicted on 17 counts including murder and 1st degree sexual assault when they entered the Petit family home in Cheshire, CT in 2007. But there was no "Home Invasion" charge.

The FBI first referenced the term in 1995 in its publication *Law Enforcement Bulletin*.

What is the magnitude of the problem?

Crime statistics are generally tabulated in accordance with the federal definitions. Because there is no federal crime, it's difficult to get an exact handle on the problem or even a consistent definition. What most people think about concerning self-defense in the home is summed up with the term "Home Invasion" when the actual crime(s) committed are robbery, rape, murder, assault, and kidnapping.

According to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, 58% of the murders in 2012 happened in a home but there is no clarity if these murders were the result of a home invasion or a domestic dispute. Again, according the TBI, 76% of the rapes happened in a home but there is no clarity if these were home invasions, a "date rape", someone taken to a home against their will or even domestic violence.

The point is, terrible crimes can be perpetrated in homes and, regardless of how police agencies classify the crime; we need to be prepared to deal with it so as not to be victimized.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

One clarification: a burglary is not a home invasion. While your home or business may have been “invaded,” (and you may certainly feel invaded) burglary takes place in unoccupied homes or businesses.

Being prepared

The first thing you must understand is that ANY home can be penetrated. There are probably not two better-protected homes in the world than those of the Queen of England and the President of the United States. Yet in 1982, an invasion took place at Buckingham Palace with the perpetrator actually making it into Queen Elizabeth’s bedroom. And it wasn’t an isolated incident; Buckingham Palace was invaded in 2004 and 2013.

In 2009, two uninvited “gate crashers” managed to avoid all security at the White House and attended a party hosted by the President. Fortunately, their intent was not criminal in nature for they actually shook hands with the President.

These events simply indicate that even the most sophisticated security systems can be defeated. Since I’m reasonably sure that no one reading this lives at the White House or in a royal palace, our “castle” is even more prone to penetration. None-the-less, we can take simple steps that can make it much more difficult for the thugs.

What steps? Here’s a short list:

- ◆ Have good locks on your doors and windows. And USE them. An amazing number of homes are entered through unlocked doors and windows.
- ◆ Have an alarm system. And USE it. It may be somewhat inconvenient to turn the system off and back on each time you enter your home, but it’s worth the effort.

Neither of those things will necessarily stop someone trying to get into your home but it may dissuade them. It will almost certainly slow them down giving you the opportunity to be prepared to deal with the situation or to escape.

- ◆ Never let anyone into your home that you don’t know. It doesn’t matter where they say they are from or their reason for asking for entry. Don’t let them in.
- ◆ Be cautious when answering the door. A favorite thug tactic is to knock on the door and get victims to partially open it, allowing the thugs to bull their way in.
- ◆ Have good tools. You need access to good flashlights located where you can quickly get your hands on one. Yes, you need one on the nightstand, but one in the living room/family room, the kitchen and else where is a good idea too. And, of course, you need a quality firearm. Or two. Or three.
- ◆ Keep your cell phone in the bedroom at night. A common thug tactic is to cut your phone lines to disable alarm systems. How will you call 911 if you don’t have access to a phone?
- ◆ Above and beyond everything else, have a plan. And practice it. Do your spouse and kids know what to do if your home is invaded? Do they know what you’ll be doing? A well thought out plan, that is practiced, is literally a lifesaver.

There is no doubt that home invasions are scary. Yet, like any other aspect of self-defense, simple precautions, a bit of preparation and some practice will go a long way towards defeating them.

Violent Crime and The Police Response To It

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, US Department of Justice, in 2006 there were:

5,685,620 violent crimes in the US
 645,950 Robberies (232,380 with injury to the victim)
 1,209,730 Aggravated Assaults (Attempted Murders)
 255,630 Forcible Rapes

In 2011, that total rose to 5,800,000 violent crimes. That is one for every 30 adults in the US.

According to a study done by the Atlanta Journal-Constitution newspaper, in a number of big cities they contacted, police response times for high priority 911 calls were:

Response Time by City, High Priority 911 calls

Atlanta, GA	11 min/12 secs
El Paso, TX	11 min/11 secs
Denver, CO	11 min/ 0 secs
Tucson, AZ	10 min/11 secs
Kansas City, MO	9 min/30 secs
Oklahoma City, OK	9 min/30 secs



This shows a range of 9-11 minutes response time by the first unit to arrive on life threatening calls.

According to the US Department of Justice, the average length of interaction between a violent criminal and his victim= 90 seconds.

You can expect a police response approximately 8 ½ to 9 minutes AFTER your encounter with the violent criminal is over. In the meantime, you are on your own.

YOU ARE THE FIRST RESPONDER! You must be capable and willing to protect yourself from violent criminals. First steps:

Accept that violent crime does not happen only to "someone else". To everyone else on the planet, YOU are "someone else".

Be alert and aware. Accept that anywhere people are present, there is a potential for violent crime. Get your head up, stop texting or yakking on the cell phone in public, and be aware of your surroundings.

Refuse to be a victim. You can be chosen without your consent. You cannot be victimized without your consent.

Carry your defensive firearm. When you are on the K-Mart parking lot the gun at home in the sock drawer will do you no good whatsoever.

Crime doesn't take a vacation! *By Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper*

Vacation time is just around the corner and many folks will be off to their favorite vacation spot or on to an entirely new adventure. Unfortunately, crime doesn't take a vacation. Just because you're on vacation doesn't mean that the thugs are too!

You will, of course, want to protect yourself while on vacation. Generally, that means being armed in some manner with the first thought being traveling with your firearm. Traveling while armed is not as difficult as some think. However, there are some steps and precautions you need to take.

The first step is to check to make sure your handgun permit is valid in the state(s) you'll be traveling in. The second step is to know the laws of those state(s). What may be lawful carry in your home state may not be lawful in another. An easy way to check both the validity of your permit and the state laws is to use this website: <http://www.handgunlaw.us>. This site features a distillation of the state firearms laws and the out-of-state permits recognized in each state. Keep in mind that there may be municipal laws in some cities that are more restrictive than the state law.

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

If you are driving to your vacation spot and your permit is not valid in a particular state you're traversing that doesn't mean you can't take your gun with you. Every state has firearms transportation laws of some sort. Typically, the laws demand that the firearm must be unloaded and that it cannot be accessed from the passenger compartment but, again, different states have different laws. The same website mentioned above – handgunlaw.us - also has a distillation of the transportation laws in each state.

If you are flying to your destination, there are very specific laws you must keep in mind. You may not carry your firearm on your person or in your carry-on luggage. Your firearm can be carried in your checked luggage but you must comply with several rules. The firearm must be unloaded and placed in a lockable container. Ammunition must be in the original box or a container specifically made for carrying ammunition and placed separately from the gun.

Once you get to the airport, tell the clerk that you require a declaration tag for your firearm. The airline and probably the TSA will inspect your firearm to be sure it's unloaded, then you will lock the box, place it in the suitcase with the declaration tag, then lock your suitcase.

The declaration tag is not a round trip ticket; you must go through the same procedure for the return trip.

If you are flying, there are some places we would advise you not to take your gun: New York City, Washington D.C., New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Maryland. Your permit is not recognized in those places and the local laws are so restrictive that you'll probably get yourself into trouble. Without going into detail, just take our advice – don't do it. If you are driving in those places, check the transportation laws and other restrictions VERY carefully.

You may carry your handgun in federal parks IF the state in which the park is located honors your permit. For instance, if you have a Tennessee permit and plan on driving the Natchez Trace, your permit is valid in all the states that the Trace is located; Tennessee, of course, and Alabama and Mississippi. Your permit is not valid if you plan to visit the Statue of Liberty Park in New York. (I think there is some irony there.)

Even if your permit is valid in the state where the federal park is located, you may not take your firearm into any building in the park. Those buildings are considered federal buildings and guns are prohibited.

If you are planning on visiting a museum on a military post, you cannot carry your firearm as that is prohibited on all military installations.

If your plans take you someplace where you can't carry your firearm, there is always OC spray. (You should have it with you anyhow!) OC is legal in all 50 states. Some states have a few restrictions but they are usually minimum age or formulation related. Like firearms, you cannot carry OC on your person or in your carry-on luggage on a commercial aircraft. It can be in your checked luggage and you do not need to declare it. To check the state laws concerning OC, go here: <http://www.peppereyes.com/page/peppersprayregs>

Many people carry knives for personal defense. The state laws, and in many cases the municipal laws, concerning knives vary widely and are often vague in definition. I could not find one comprehensive, reliable website that lists all the laws. Typically the laws concern blade length and type of action but, again, there is wide variation including outright prohibition in some locations. Be very careful about carrying a knife. You may not carry a knife on your person or in your carry-on luggage on a commercial aircraft. You can carry one in your checked luggage and you need not declare it.

Collapsible batons are often carried for personal defense. Like knives, the baton laws vary widely from state-to-state and it is difficult to find a comprehensive listing of state laws. Again, like knives, be very careful about carrying a baton; they are illegal in some jurisdictions. The same restrictions as guns, knives, and OC apply to batons when it comes to commercial aircraft.



And finally, if your vacation plans will take you to a foreign country – forget taking a handgun. Just don't even think about it. You probably shouldn't take a knife or a baton either. Self-defense and firearms laws outside the U.S. are, well, just foreign to us.

Vacation should be fun and relaxing. Help insure that yours will be by being as prepared as you can while on the road. It takes just a bit of effort to understand the laws of each state but it is well worth it. You don't want your vacation spoiled – not to mention the other terrible things that could happen to you – by not being prepared to deal with crime. Or the police!

THE LAW OF SELF DEFENSE

Law of Self Defense Seminar: Syllabus

The *Law of Self-Defense Seminar* provides a comprehensive fact- and law-based education on the law of self-defense, presented by a nationally recognized legal expert in the field. The *Seminars* are in-person and conducted by Attorney Andrew Branca.

The seminar illustrates how the law of self-defense is applied in real court cases involving real people. In addition, the seminar is structured to engage students with scenario-driven applications of the legal principles governing the law of self-defense. Our goal is to minimize your vulnerability to prosecution at every facet of personal protection, from long before a fight occurs to interacting with law enforcement in the aftermath of a defensive encounter.

This seminar is customized to the self-defense law of the state in which it is held. Participants will leave the seminar armed with the legal knowledge and analytical tools necessary to apply the law of self-defense in a practical and actionable way to situations that arise in their daily lives.

All participants will receive a certificate of completion of the seminar. They will also have the option to obtain a copy of the presentation slides at no cost, as well as a discount code for purchase of a custom autographed print copy of "The Law of Self Defense, 2nd Edition."

Seminar Leader

Andrew F. Branca is in his third decade of practicing law in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He is an internationally recognized expert on the law of self-defense, and has been quoted in this context by the Wall Street Journal, the Chicago Tribune, the Washington Post, and many other mainstream media, including nationally syndicated broadcast media and foreign press.

In addition, Andrew is a life-long member of the firearms community. He began his competitive shooting activities as a youth shooting small-bore rifle, and today is a life member of the National Rifle Association (NRA) and a Master class competitor in multiple divisions in the International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA). He's proud to have played a modest role in the founding of IDPA (his member number is 013).

Andrew has for many years been an NRA-certified firearms instructor in pistol, rifle, and personal protection, and is currently a guest instructor at the Sig Sauer Academy on the law of self-defense.

Andrew is also a frequent speaker at law school gun law symposia and major gun industry events, including the NRA 2014 Annual Convention.

Seminar Syllabus

Block 1: Introduction (~10 minutes)

Covers why it is essential to know the legal "rules" of the self-defense "game," both in terms of the statutes and how those statutes are actually applied by the courts in real world cases involving real world people. Also outlines how the seminar will proceed, and what attendees should expect to have accomplished and learned by the end.

THE LAW OF SELF DEFENSE

Block 2: Criminal Justice Pipeline—What to Expect (~15 minutes; total time ~0:25)

Covers the entire criminal justice pipeline from interacting with the responding officers, through arrest, “your one phone call,” investigation, likely criminal charges and sentences they carry, plea bargaining, pre-trial, trial, jury instructions, verdict, and appeals. Lays out all the pieces of the criminal justice “machine” through which you can be expected to be fed if you use force in self-defense.

Q&A (~ 15 minutes; total time 40 minutes)

Block 3: Five Principles of the Law of Self-Defense (~60 minutes; total time ~1:40)

Innocence
Imminence
Proportionality
Avoidance
Reasonableness

Illustrated with the actual statutes and court decisions for each state from which attendees have come.

Q&A/Break (~30 minutes; total time ~2:10)

Block 4: Defense of Others (~20 minutes; total time ~2:30)

Illustrated with the actual statutes and court decisions for each state to be covered.

Block 5: Defense of Property (~20 minutes; total time ~2:50)

Illustrated with the actual statutes and court decisions for each state to be covered.

Block 6: After the Fact/Interacting with Law Enforcement (~30 minutes; total time ~3:20)

Discusses implications for how conduct after the event can strengthen or undermine your self-defense claim. Also discusses to what extent things you learn about your attacker’s character or reputation after the fact can be introduced into evidence (e.g., your attacker’s reputation for violence). Most important, we cover the critically important knowledge of what to say, and what not to say, to the 911 dispatcher, to responding officers, and to investigative officers in the aftermath of a defensive encounter.

Block 7: Crafting a Legally-Sound Self-Defense Strategy (~20 minutes; total time ~3:40)

Covers the five key tactics around which to build a legally sound self-defense strategy that enables your lawyer to construct a compelling narrative of innocence to maximize your ability to survive both the physical and legal battles of a defensive force confrontation.

Final Q&A: (~20 minutes; total time ~4:00) In fact, however, I’ll stay as long as people have questions.

Equipment:

Open mind, notebook and pen (recommended)

For more information, contact:

seminar@lawofselfdefense.com or visit www.lawofselfdefense.com/seminars/.

Quotes on Firearms Rights

When only cops have guns, it's called a "police state".

"Rightful liberty is unobstructed action, according to our will, within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others." -- Thomas Jefferson

"No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms. The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government" -- Thomas Jefferson, 1 Thomas Jefferson Papers, 334

"The very atmosphere of firearms anywhere and everywhere restrains evil interference - they deserve a place of honor with all that's good" -- George Washington

"The best we can hope for concerning the people at large is that they be properly armed." -- Alexander Hamilton, The Federalist Papers at 184-188

"Among the many misdeeds of the British rule in India, history will look upon the act of depriving a whole nation of arms, as the blackest." - Mahatma Gandhi

"They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." -- Benjamin Franklin, Historical Review of Pennsylvania, 1759.

"Experience should teach us to be most on our guard to protect liberty when the government's purposes are beneficent... The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well meaning but without understanding." -- Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis

"Extremism in the defense of liberty is no vice. Tolerance in the face of tyranny is no virtue." -- Barry Goldwater

"One of the ordinary modes, by which tyrants accomplish their purposes without resistance, is, by disarming the people, and making it an offense to keep arms." -- Constitutional scholar Joseph Story, 1840

"The bearing of arms is the essential medium through which the individual asserts both his social power and his participation in politics as a responsible moral being..." -- J.G.A. Pocock, describing the beliefs of the founders of the U.S.

Men trained in arms from their infancy, and animated by the love of liberty, will afford neither a cheap or easy conquest. -- From the Declaration of the Continental Congress, July 1775.

"As to the species of exercise, I advise the gun. While this gives [only] moderate exercise to the body, it gives boldness, enterprise, and independence to the mind. Games played with the ball and others of that nature, are too violent for the body and stamp no character on the mind. Let your gun, therefore, be the constant companion to your walks." -- Thomas Jefferson, writing to his teenaged nephew

No one is bound to obey an unconstitutional law and no courts are bound to enforce it. -- 16 Am. Jur. Sec. 177 late 2d, Sec 256

"Taking my gun away because I might shoot someone is like cutting my tongue out because I might yell 'Fire!' in a crowded theater."-- Peter Venetoklis

...Virtually never are murderers the ordinary, law-abiding people against whom gun bans are aimed. Almost without exception, murderers are extreme aberrants with lifelong histories of crime, substance abuse, psychopathology, mental retardation and/or irrational violence against those around them, as well as other hazardous behavior, e.g., automobile and gun accidents." -- Don B. Kates, writing on statistical patterns in gun crime

"Today, we need a nation of Minutemen, citizens who are not only prepared to take arms, but citizens who regard the preservation of freedom as the basic purpose of their daily life and who are willing to consciously work and sacrifice for that freedom." -- John F. Kennedy

The right of the citizens to keep and bear arms has justly been considered as the palladium of the liberties of a republic; since it offers a strong moral check against usurpation and arbitrary power of rulers; and will generally, even if these are successful in the first instance, enable the people to resist and triumph over them."-- Supreme Court Justice Joseph Story of the John Marshall Court

"Government is not reason, it is not eloquence, it is force; like fire, a troublesome servant and a fearful master. Never for a moment should it be left to irresponsible action." -- George Washington, in a speech of January 7, 1790

"A militia, when properly formed, are in fact the people themselves ... and include all men capable of bearing arms." -- Senator Richard Henry Lee, 1788, on "militia" in the 2nd Amendment

"...quemadmodum gladius neminem occidit, occidentis telum est." [...a sword never kills anybody; it's a tool in the killer's hand.]

-- (Lucius Annaeus) Seneca "the Younger" (ca. 4 BC-65 AD),

False is the idea of utility that sacrifices a thousand real advantages for one imaginary or trifling inconvenience; that would take fire from men because it burns, and water because one may drown in it; that has no remedy for evils except destruction. The laws that forbid the carrying of arms are laws of such a nature. They disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes.

-- Cesare Beccaria, as quoted by Thomas Jefferson's Commonplace book

No kingdom can be secured otherwise than by arming the people. The possession of arms is the distinction between a freeman and a slave. -- "Political Disquisitions", a British republican tract of 1774-1775

"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect everyone who approaches that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will preserve it but downright force. Whenever you give up that force, you are inevitably ruined." -- Patrick Henry, speech of June 5 1788

Are we at last brought to such a humiliating and debasing degradation, that we cannot be trusted with arms for our own defence? Where is the difference between having our arms in our own possession and under our own direction, and having them under the management of Congress? If our defence be the "real" object of having those arms, in whose hands can they be trusted with more propriety, or equal safety to us, as in our own hands? -- Patrick Henry, speech of June 9 1788

"To disarm the people... was the best and most effectual way to enslave them." -- George Mason, speech of June 14, 1788

"The great object is, that every man be armed. [...] Every one who is able may have a gun." -- Patrick Henry, speech of June 14 1788

Such are a well regulated militia, composed of the freeholders, citizen and husbandman, who take up arms to preserve their property, as individuals, and their rights as freemen. -- "M.T. Cicero", in a newspaper letter of 1788 touching the "militia" referred to in the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

That the said Constitution shall never be construed to authorize Congress to infringe the just liberty of the press or the rights of conscience; or to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms... -- Samuel Adams, in "Phila. Independent Gazetteer", August 20, 1789

The danger (where there is any) from armed citizens, is only to the *government*, not to *society*; and as long as they have nothing to revenge in the government (which they cannot have while it is in their own hands) there are many advantages in their being accustomed to the use of arms, and no possible disadvantage. - Joel Barlow, "Advice to the Privileged Orders", 1792-93

You need only reflect that one of the best ways to get yourself a reputation as a dangerous citizen these days is to go about repeating the very phrases which our founding fathers used in the great struggle for independence. -- **Attributed to Charles Austin Beard (1874-1948)**

An armed society is a polite society. Manners are good when one may have to back up his acts with his life. -- Robert A. Heinlein, "Beyond This Horizon", 1942

No matter how one approaches the figures, one is forced to the rather startling conclusion that the use of fire-arms in crime was very much less when there were no controls of any sort and when anyone, convicted criminal or lunatic, could buy any type of firearm without restriction. Half a century of strict controls on pistols has ended, perversely, with a far greater use of this weapon in crime than ever before. -- Colin Greenwood, in the study "Firearms Control", 1972

.. a government and its agents are under no general duty to provide public services, such as police protection, to any particular individual citizen...

-- Warren v. District of Columbia, 444 A.2d 1 (D.C. App.181)

The conclusion is thus inescapable that the history, concept, and wording of the second amendment to the Constitution of the United States, as well as its interpretation by every major commentator and court in the first half-century after its ratification, indicates that what is protected is an individual right of a private citizen to own and carry firearms in a peaceful manner. -- **Report of the Subcommittee On The Constitution of the Committee On The Judiciary, United States Senate, 97th Congress, second session (February, 1982), SuDoc# Y4.J 89/2: Ar 5/5**

The whole of the Bill [of Rights] is a declaration of the right of the people at large or considered as individuals... It establishes some rights of the individual as unalienable and which consequently, no majority has a right to deprive them of. -- Albert Gallatin, Oct 7 1789

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A Girl and A Gun Annual Training Conference

In March, Lynn and Tom taught at the second annual "A Girl and A Gun National Training Conference" in Waco, Texas. This three day event was attended by 300 women from all over the United States and featured classroom training at the conference center and live fire training at the nearby Tiger Valley range complex. This was an excellent event and we are proud to be involved in this organization.



Both Tom and Lynn presented training at the A Girl and A Gun National Training Conference in Waco, TX. There were 300 women participating in this conference from literally all over the U.S.

Here is a description of "A Girl and a Gun" from their website:

"A Girl and A Gun Women's Shooting League is a Ladies Only Organization established by women shooters for women shooters for pistol, rifle and shotgun sports! The league is designed to take beginners to whatever skill level they wish to achieve, and provide experienced shooters with more opportunities. The objective of some is to improve their skill levels for target and/or competitive shooting. Others, while wanting to improve their skills, also are interested in the aspects of self-defense. Our mission is to educate and encourage women about firearm usage, safety, and promote women's shooting interest and participation in the competitive shooting sports."

We'll be at the next conference in 2015. See <http://www.agirlandagunclub.com> for more information.



Lynn explains the finer points of a skill to ladies at the A Girl & A Gun training conference in Waco, Texas.