

Drawing a line in the sand Continued . . .

Capitol staffer will tell you that repetitive or form emails get deleted automatically, letters get read and usually responded to only if they come from district constituents - the rest are tossed. Phone calls are answered and tallied, but face-to-face visits allows for conversation, interaction and emotion. This is the very best thing. Thank you to everyone who took a day off work or traveled a long way to be a part of this day. Whatever happens with this bill, we have been heard!

*Open Carry Ban Continued . . .*

In the light of that then, it is understandable why California has the most restrictive gun laws. Not understandable if one is thinking inherent rights, but understandable if one is thinking of our written state constitution and the laws that flow out of it.

Couple that understanding with the affinity the state has for a very liberal bias in much of the population which then gives rise and consent to a bizarre legislature and leadership; bizarre in the sense that it exhibits no sense, mostly nonsense, definitely lacking in common sense.

Hence, and consequently, Senator Jack Scott's

bill this year to restrict open carry of firearms in the unincorporated areas of the state. A gun ban, essentially.

Open Carry means that we are legally allowed to carry our firearm in plain sight in public locations. Open Carry in California is allowed without a permit, as long as you are in an area with a population of less than 200,000 and/or it is not prohibited specifically by an entity like a county or city.

SB 1171 will stop all of that. Unincorporated portions of the state, which is the majority of the state, will become like the incorporated portions of the state. No one will be able to carry their firearm loaded in their car or truck, in the back country or in a remote park, nor in a public campground, nor openly on their person.

The simplest, most efficient tool for self defense, a handgun, will not be permitted to be used by you in a remote situation, the very situation that you may need it the most.

Isn't it interesting that while gun rights are seeing gains throughout and across the United States, California State Senator Scott deems it necessary to further inhibit the freedoms of California gun owners by introducing SB 1171, a bill described as "redefining loaded firearms", but in reality redefines by nullifying so that a lawful persons ability to defend themselves becomes void.

PR Tours - Out in the field Continued . . .

previous two owners. Harry, like the owners of all the other stores, committed to support GOC by making materials available to their customers. Lastly, we topped off the day with dinner at **Sunnyvale Rod and Gun Club's** monthly dinner meeting. Sam gave a first time ever presentation to the Club and I must say that Sam's presentation more than opened a few eyes."

Fred Kern was Sam's Guide into The Mother Lode Country at the end of May. A resident of Avery, Fred is well acquainted with the entire area, the locations of the stores, and the **Mother Lode Gun Club and Range**. They met at Treat's Market on Highway 49 and began their well planned itinerary. Fred had made the route with a design for efficiency. They visited Bill Youngman in Jamestown at the **B-Bar-Y Traders** on Main. They went to Sonora and San Andreas, visiting the stores, owners, and others, and also to the Club and Range, where Sam spoke on the second Monday of June at 7:00 in the evening. Along the way they were joined by GOC member and activist, Joe Varga, who came by to say hello and to be supportive of Sam in his Tour of the countryside. As Fred said of the day, "We saw everyone we planned to see, everyone was very responsive to Sam and they were older and wiser when Sam left them." "It was an honor to be Sam's Tour Guide," Fred said, "and I will be glad to do it anytime."

Personal visits to gun stores gives gun owners a sense of assurance that there is someone fighting for their rights and businesses in Sacramento. We will continue to work throughout the state, scheduling visits between sessions of the legislature. This is where the rubber meets the road.

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Drawing a Line in the Sand

Gwen Friesen GOC Staff Writer

From times of old, a line drawn in the sand was understood by all to mean that at this point there would be no more crossing over, no more advancement, no more encroaching on another's space, place, or time.

May 6, 2008 was the day that gun owners from all over California came together to Rally at the Capitol in Protest of abhorrent anti-gun legislation that has **crossed over the line**. The Protest Rally focused on AB 2062, a bill described as back door registration, with its target ammunition, and those who sell it, and those who buy it.

A hundred men and women gathered on the middle ground between the North and West steps of the Capitol in Sacramento. **They** are the **line**. On a bright sunny day each one came motivated by a passionate and intense desire to see this extremist bill go down in defeat, permanently. Pro-gun Legislators came to greet the gun owners and to speak encouraging words. Senator Tom McClintock spoke, calling for steadfast determination to overcome this and other anti-gun legislation.

The Capitol occupants were abuzz with the sound, "the gun folks are here" as those at the Rally divided up into 10 groups and entered into the halls and offices of all Assembly members on the Appropriations Committee, and a few more. Forty legislative offices were visited in all.

Chuck Riglick reported back that his group lobbied in Kevin DeLeon's office. DeLeon is the author of AB 2062. Staff member Andrea met with the rally members and explained why the bill was originated, saying, "When the Assemblyman was walking on the streets of his district he saw so many bullet casings

lying on the ground." Chuck, who is ex-law enforcement, spoke of the effect of the bill against the law abiding, the cost to the state, and the detriment to retail business. Those facts were of no effect to Andrea.

Joe Varga, of Twain Harte, reported that his group spoke in 4 offices. Mostly they spoke with staff. Staff took a compromise approach and suggested amending this or that but the gun owners insisted that nothing short of a "NO" vote would do.



They drew the line and stood firm on it.

Dave Macy of Grass Valley, reported that his perception was that Legislators are ignorant and unaware of what they are voting on while relying on staffers for input.

Fred Hoot of San Jose reported on his group's attempts to see Assemblyman Mark Leno, who is chair of the Appropriations Committee. The men were told by staff that he was out all day for training. Shortly thereafter, Mark Leno was sighted talking with two people in a courtyard across from the Capitol. Tenacious gun owners as they were they revisited Leno's office, only to be told again that the Assemblyman was

out of the office for the day. Clandestinely, they did not reveal that they had actually seen the Assemblyman. Again, they spotted Leno by the elevators talking to a couple of men, and he did not appear to be in a hurry. That is, not until the group introduced themselves as Gun Owners of California and they were there to talk to him about AB 2062. Then, "immediately", as Fred wrote, Leno "was late for an appointment" and scurried away seeking refuge in his office. Undaunted, the GOC members of **the line** followed on his heels and managed to inform him of their position on the bill in spite of himself.

Lee Dummel of Paradise, heavily promoted this Rally and justly could be called the instigator of gathering together on this day for the purpose of educating the legislators on the issues and effects of such a bill as AB 2062. Lee and his group found their conversation with DeLeon enlightening as the author admitted his bill was an emotional response to the gang problem in his district. Lee was firm with his talking points, and being

former law enforcement credibly stressed that nothing in the bill would address or curtail gang activity in any district.

GOC was joined by other pro-gun groups and together produced a formidable **line** that included law enforcement, firearms and ammo dealers, hunters, competitive shooters and representatives from various gun clubs throughout the state. Appreciation specifically goes to those who brought cars full of gun owners that made up **the line**.

Draw a line in the sand...and stand. It is the best way to affect the legislature. Any

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Legislative Report

Assemblywoman Lois Wolk Betrays Gun Owners, Casts Key Vote to Pass Ammo Registration Bill

Sam Paredes - Executive Director

Just before the June 30th deadline for all legislation to pass out of their house of origin, the State Assembly passed both AB 2062 (Ammo Registration) and AB 2235 (Smart Guns) with bare minimum majorities of 41 votes. They now move over to the Senate for a whole new set of hearings.

The next deadline is June 27th when bills must be reported out of the Senate Public Safety Committee or they will be dead for the rest of the session. The legislature will then break for the summer – if they can pass a budget – then they have until August 15th to pass all bills from the Appropriations Committee. The final day for all legislative action is August 31st when the legislature adjourns. We have a long way to go.

Ammo Registration Assemblyman Kevin DeLeon (D-Los Angeles)

AB 2062 passed on a 41 vote majority, except this time Assemblywoman Lois Wolk (who did not vote to pass AB 2235), betrayed gun owners and not only cast the deciding vote for AB 2062, she also rose to speak on its behalf and encourage her fellow members to vote for it. Assemblywoman Wolk is the former co-chair of the Legislative Outdoor Sporting Caucus. She is also running for Senate against pro-gun stalwart Assemblyman Greg Aghazarian.

The Federal Government had in place an ammunition registration program established by the 1968 Gun Control Act. It was discarded by Congress in 1986 when the U.S. Treasury Department testified that the program was of no use in crime fighting.

In the 18 years that the nationwide mandate was in place, not a single crime was solved due to the registration program even though there were literally tens of millions of recorded transactions. If the program had even a shred of merit, one would think that even a few crimes would have been solved. The fact is there were none. Ammunition or ammunition purchaser registration, in any form, serves only to infringe upon the rights of law-abiding citizens. It has

proven to do nothing towards preventing criminals from violating federal or state laws. In fact, the U.S. Supreme Court in U.S. vs. Haynes has held that criminals cannot be compelled to obey these registration laws because doing so would violate their right against self-incrimination. They can be prosecuted for breaking the law but they cannot be compelled to obey the law. Therefore there is no crime prevention aspect to **AB 2062**.

AB 2062 will do nothing to prevent gang members from acquiring ammunition and will do nothing to assist law enforcement in catching criminals. This bill will only create a massive record keeping system costing millions of taxpayer's dollars, destroy the legal commerce of ammunition, and will make it cumbersome for law-abiding citizens to exercise their rights. It would be unlawful to privately transfer more than 50 rounds of ammunition per month, even between family and friends, unless they are registered as a "handgun ammunition vendor" in a new Department of Justice database.

Ammunition retailers would have to be licensed and store ammunition in such a manner that it would be inaccessible to purchasers.

The bill would also require vendors to keep a record of transactions including ammunition buyer's name, driver's license, quantity, caliber, type of ammunition purchased, and right thumbprint, which would be submitted to the Department of Justice.

Mail order ammunition sales would be prohibited.

Violators of AB 2062 would be subject to civil fines and misdemeanor charges.

Smart Guns Assemblyman Mark DeSaulnier (D-Martinez)

AB 2235 also passed on a vote of 41 ayes, 30 noes and 9 not voting. Seven Democrats either voted no or did not vote along with all 32 Republicans.

Smart gun technology has been in the research

stages for over 18 years. Since law enforcement officers are more likely to be shot with their own service handguns, researchers have been trying to develop technology that would allow a firearm to be fired only by the authorized owner of the gun. Therefore, if a firearm is snatched from an officer or deputy, the gun would not function for the assailant. Nice concept but fraught with all manner of negative consequences. Here's the kicker, even though this technology was conceived for cops, this bill exempts them from having to have the equipment on their guns...

The technology to achieve reliable "owner authorized recognition" does not exist.

This bill says that as soon as the technology is developed and brought to market, anywhere in the world, all new handguns sold in California will be required to be equipped with the equipment. That means that if *smart guns* are developed in China or Cuba or where ever, any handgun manufacturer who wants to continue to sell handguns in California must include the technology on their handguns.

The bottom line is that the anti-gunners want to force law-abiding Californians to purchase only politically correct handguns. All we can wonder is what part of "*shall not be infringed*" do they not understand?

SB 1171 Open Carry Ban - Senator Jack Scott (D - Altadena)

Gwen Friesen - GOC staff writer

First of all we have to remember that the California Constitution contains NO provision for the right to keep and bear arms. Therein is the bottom line, right at the top of the page. California has no proclaimed Second Amendment freedoms via its own Constitution.

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Senator Tom McClintock Receives GOC Legislator of the Year Award

Senator Tom McClintock was chosen as GOC's 2008 Legislator of the Year for his career-long defense of the U.S. Constitution and the Second Amendment in particular. Senator McClintock is now termed-out and can no longer run for state legislative office. But, should he win in the upcoming election he will be defending the Constitution in the U.S. Congress from the 4th District of California.

In an epic battle against former Congressman Doug Ose, who served for six years in a neighboring district and who accumulated an "F" rating from Gun Owners of America for his anti-gun votes, Senator McClintock defeated Ose for the Republican nomination. Ose spent approximately \$4.6 million in an effort to trash McClintock's reputation by distorting his conservative record. The voters of the 4th District saw through the deception and

overwhelmingly elected McClintock by a margin of over 15%.

Ose now holds the dubious record of spending more money than any other congressional candidate in American history and losing the race.

GOC wishes Senator Tom McClintock a long and fruitful career in the U.S. Congress should he, as expected, defeat the Democrat candidate in November.



Senator Tom McClintock (left) receiving GOC Legislator of the Year Award from Sam Paredes (right) Executive Director Of Gun Owners of California

PR Tours – Out in the Field

Gwen Friesen – GOC Staff Writer

GOC Executive Director Sam Paredes met Ralph Reinhardt at noon in Redding in April. Ralph would be Sam's Guide for that day and had a full itinerary planned. The itinerary included a route arranged so as to visit each gun store or range in the Redding area.

Nice Shot on Caterpillar Road was the first stop and is the only indoor range in the area. It is very modern, very busy, sells instruction, and lots of guns in all styles.

Next was **Olde West Guns** on North Market. They have been around for 50 years so are well established. **Jones Fort** on Cypress Avenue is a fine gun shop that draws serious shooters. Patrick Jones participates in the long-established **Redding Gun Club** and is also a Redding City Council Member. The end of the day saw Sam and Ralph visiting with the newest store in Redding, **Great Outdoors**, and its owner Tom McDermid. As Sam traveled around he discovered old friends and made new ones as he introduced GOC and our work to each one.

Fresno is in the heart of California and captures the hearts of many gun owners for there are many gun stores in the region. Twelve were visited by Sam and Bonnie McClure the day Bonnie guided Sam around to meet everyone. Bonnie has been supplying the stores with GOC materials for several years now, so she was exactly the pro that Sam needed to introduce him to gun store owners and gun club members. As the Guide, Bonnie planned an efficient route and after meeting at **Herb Bauer's Sporting Goods** on N. Blackstone they set out. They visited stores in Clovis, and the **Fresno Rifle and Pistol Club and Shooting Range**. It was a long, but very satisfying day of meeting, again, old friends and making new ones. GOC prospers by gaining new members and awareness of our work goes further beyond our mailing list.

The first day of May saw Sam in San Jose on a PR Tour with Guide Jim Barry. Jim Barry is a member of GOC's Newsletter Distribution Team and has been taking our materials to the stores and clubs

in his area for several years now. In Jim's words: "We met in the morning on Thursday, May 1st, and began with the **Sportsmans Supply**, talking to John Baker the owner. He asked a lot of questions and also gave Sam insight into his business and his audit by the ATF&E. We then met up with Charlie O'Neill who is an ammunition vendor at gun shows. He used to have his own shop but now only sells ammo at shows. At the **San Jose Gun Exchange**, Sam talked to Mike, who told us that his FFL was taken away for clerical errors. There is a new FFL owner so the store will remain where it is. Our next stop was **Mel Cotton's Sporting Goods**, a large store in San Jose. John the supervisor could not understand the reasoning in Sacramento and committed to fight against the ammo registration bill. San Jose landmark, **Reed's Sport Shop**, was the next stop. Jim Reed, the owner, told of his battle with the ATF&E and how he lost his license because of "clerical errors". Reed's opened after World War II with Jim's father Earl. They are now selling the store. **Kerley's Sporting Goods**, another long time business in Santa Clara County, was the next stop. Kerley's is under its third owner Harry Dwyer, since the ATF&E shut down the

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