

Fundraising Event Calendar

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June 7, 2013
Southside Community Center

Sporting Clay Shoot
June 15, 2013
Camanche Hills Hunting Preserve - Lone

Tehama County
July 19, 2013
Rolling Hills Casino



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Gunmageddon at the State Capitol

By Beth Hummel

April 16, 2013 marked the first day that many gun control bills gained passage in their initial hearings within both houses of the legislature. As expected, these notoriously bad bills passed out on a party line vote, while common sense measures to protect the Second Amendment were defeated; but the Super Majority, who expected to shove their unconstitutional measures through without serious opposition, got WAY MORE than they bargained for.

A pack of bills (15 to be exact) passed the first of several committee hearings but it was no easy day for Democrats. The Senate Public Safety Committee hearing of 11 bills began at 9AM and ended around 8:30 PM. So many citizens showed up in support and opposition for Darrell Steinberg's (DEM) Assault Weapons bill, SB 374, that a lunch break had to be called after hours of citizen testimony.

The Senate Public Safety Committee was clearly caught off guard as Del Norte County Sheriff Wilson and El Dorado County Sheriff D'Agostini, gave very compelling testimony to the cheers of many, that they would not enforce unconstitutional measures that infringe upon a citizen's right to bear arms. They made it clear that as Sheriffs sworn to protect the citizens they serve, that citizens must retain their Second Amendment rights to defend themselves with lawfully obtained firearms they choose, as a citizens' best and most sure defense is himself, in life threatening situations.

Sam Paredes, Executive Director of Gun Owners of California, had more surprises in store, bringing Rob Young to testify. Rob was just a first-grader, when he and numerous classmates were gunned down on the school playground by Patrick Purdy in the infamous Cleveland Elementary School mass shooting

in Stockton on January 15, 1989. That tragic incident rocked the entire state and subsequently lead to legislation that banned assault weapons in California.

Upon discovering that an old video interview of himself as a shooting victim was used without his knowledge in the Joint Public Safety Committee hearing earlier this year, Rob Young wanted to make sure that his pro-Second Amendment views were not miss-characterized by the anti-gun agenda that followed. Rob Young testified in opposition to SB 374. He testified that although he still has a bullet lodged in his chest, the events of that horrific day made him realize that an unarmed citizenry is no match for the criminally insane who do not obey gun laws. He grew up to become a well-respected police officer and is passionate about allowing armed, trained citizens to be able to defend themselves. **"Gun control would not have saved me or any of my classmates that dreadful day. Five kids were killed, 27 were injured, and an entire nation lost the sense of security of being able to send their children to school,"** Young said. **"What happened to us on that schoolyard is horrific, however, what the psychopath wanted that day, the need to hurt and kill, could and probably would have happened whether he was armed or not."**

Young added, **"Do not take away my right as a husband and as a father to protect my family against sick individuals who may**

choose to cause us harm. Do not place unfair limits on my ability to protect me and my loved ones."

Equally compelling testimony came from retired Sergeant United States Marine Corps, John Michael Garcia, a contractor in the field of anti-terrorism force protection. He told the Assembly Public Safety Committee that he supports AB 871 (Jones / Concealed Weapons Permits) that would make California a "shall issue" state for applicants with good cause and good moral character. He testified that although he is a military trained sharp shooter and a deadly weapons trainer for many law enforcement personnel, he has been repeatedly denied a CCW. He told GOC that while his country counted upon him to defend it over-seas against every kind of threat imaginable, he is still being denied the ability to defend himself and his family here at home. Assemblyman Brian Jones (Rep), author of AB 871, made the following statement before the Assembly Public Safety Committee:

Gunmageddon at the State Capitol

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Gunmageddon at the State Capitol *Continued . . .*

"A recent national survey of over 15,000 police professionals conducted by PoliceOne.com found that the overall attitude of law enforcement is strongly anti-gun legislation and pro-gun rights," as shown by these results:

- 91 percent support the concealed carry of firearms by civilians who have not been convicted of a felony and/or have not been deemed psychologically incapable
- 80 percent feel that legally-armed citizens would likely have reduced the number of casualties in recent mass shooting incidents

"There is indisputable evidence by the FBI that shows states with 'right to carry' laws have lower rates of violent crime," said Jones. "The best way to combat gun crime is through harsher punishment, not through stricter gun control." Despite expert testimony, Assemblyman Jones' measure, which he has introduced before, was quickly defeated again by a party line vote.

Throughout the day witnesses on both sides made their views known. Back in the Senate Public Safety Committee hearing, some moms tearfully explained they supported all gun control bills on that committee's agenda after the loss of their child to gun violence. Of the opposite opinion, were moms who pleaded they were desperate to be able to acquire a concealed weapons permit to protect themselves and their kids, as they lived in crime ridden neighborhoods. Throughout the day gun-rights advocates made it clear that while tragic events make us all want to stop violent crime - all of the bills introduced, would only hurt law-abiding citizens, as criminals do not obey gun laws when they commit violent crimes. As predicted, the facts presented fell on deaf ears.

With committees stacked 5 Democrats to every 2 Republicans there is little chance for a fair hearing. Numerous citizens who had never been to a committee hearing before, said they were aghast at the ease in which false statements were made by anti-gun enthusiasts in order to present their case. It was painfully clear to everyone present that gun-rights advocates were the experts on firearms,

bullets and firearms manufacturing. Despite being greatly outnumbered on the dais, the two lone Republican Senators on the Senate Public Safety Committee, Vice Chair Joel Anderson and Senator Steve Knight, were tenacious in their expert questioning of bill authors and witnesses who often stretched the truth and distorted facts. During part of the hard lined questioning on Senator Darrell Steinberg's SB 374, regarding the difference he sees between a semiautomatic and an automatic firearm, the Senator fumbled that it is a "distinction without difference." Steinberg later admitted that he wished he could rewrite the Second Amendment that would only guarantee the right to certain firearms.

It was often said by supporters of anti-gun and anti-ammunition bills that it is their desire to take as many guns out of the market that they can as a matter of public safety. They also made it clear that they want to know WHO owns every assault weapon – that I might add – fits their definition.

Gun-rights advocates poked holes in the "need to fix a current loophole" excuse continuously touted by Democrats on numerous bills. Ed Worley of the NRA demonstrated that the Department of Justice was part of the negotiations on the original assault weapons ban in 1989 and therefore there were no loopholes in the original legislation. Furthermore, Worley pointed out that the bullet button conversion was encouraged by a CHP memo sent to officers to retrofit their personal firearms ensuring they do not fall into the new Assault Weapon category.

GOC Executive Director, Sam Paredes explained to Senator Leland Yee that there is no such thing as a fixed magazine semi-automatic rifle or handgun and therefore, according to his bill, SB 47, the only legal semi-automatics we will be allowed to own are guns that don't exist! He further explained that the unconstitutional policies drafted by this legislature are driving up gun and ammunition sales to record levels, as citizens fear their Second Amendment freedoms will soon no longer exist. Sam continued to explain to Senator Yee that his bill requiring more firearms registration would require the impossible building of a governmental infrastructure bigger than the DMV in order to manage the millions of new gun registrations.

Several alarmed citizens told the committee that they were shocked that compelling testimony made no difference in the outcome of each vote cast for another unconstitutional measure and

begged them to reconsider. **"You people scare the hell out of me!"** complained one gentleman, clearly unnerved by the whole experience. **"It's like you will stop at nothing to take away our rights to defend ourselves and our property in our own homes!"** And THAT pretty much wraps up the entire day's proceedings. **Sam Paredes made it very clear, "For every unconstitutional measure that you put forth, we will take to court and win! We've done it before and we will do it again. The Constitution and the will of the law-abiding is on our side."**

Special Note from Executive Director Sam Paredes

My Friends:

Even though we were defeated on every bill that was introduced, I was encouraged. Yes, it was a kangaroo court to give the anti-gunners an appearance of transparency as they jammed their bills through the process. Yes, this hearing was as much a Public Relations vehicle for their anti-gun package of bills as anything else. But, for the first time in a very long time, unparalleled cooperation amongst the pro-gun community allowed us rain on their parade and to present what I thought was complete, detailed, professional, effective and emotional testimony on every measure. This cooperation allowed us to minimize duplication of information, allowed for perspectives from all directions, and most importantly our final testifiers were willing and able to bat clean-up and adjust their comments to discuss anything that was not covered by everyone else.

The hearings on April 16th were unprecedented. The Senate Public Safety Committee hearing alone covered 11 bills in 11 hours and covered only one subject matter...guns. And, although we will most probably be relegated to the usual "two testifiers for two minutes" on future bills in all committees, I am still hopeful that this experience of sincere cooperation will continue.

I have to tip my hat to all of the key testifiers (in no particular order):

El Dorado County **Sheriff John D'Agostini**
Del Norte County **Sheriff Tom Wilson**

Police Officer Rob Young (child victim of the Stockton Schoolyard shooting by Patrick Purdy, 1989)

Sgt. John Michael Garcia (USMC ret.) wounded vet

Jake McGuigan, National Shooting Sports Foundation

Kathy Lynch, National Shooting Sports Foundation, Safari Club International
Gerald Upholt, CA Association of Firearms Retailers

Ron Godwin, CA Association of Firearms Retailers

Marc Halcon, Pres. CA Association of Firearms Retailers

Craig DeLuz, CA-FFL

Tom Pederson, CA Rifle and Pistol Association

Ed Worley, National Rifle Association

EVERY one of them gave testimony that was important, often times riveting and with great emotion.

This was a real world example of Ronald Reagan's axiom that "You can do amazing things if you don't care who gets the credit..."

I, for one, was proud to be a part of this fight, in this battle, on this day.



Sam Paredes
Executive Director

P.S. Unfortunately, we don't have enough room to include the names of 100's of individual citizens, Tea Party Leaders, and other defenders of the Second Amendment who also spoke. Thank you, nonetheless!

The Good, The Bad, AND THE UGLY

By Beth Hummel

Like the ominous and unwelcome reality of enemy boots and spurs on the home porches of unsuspecting folks back in the old west, the renegade Left is approaching in broad daylight with the intent to rob you of your Second Amendment liberties. Armed with misguided emotion and over 22 anti-ammunition and assorted gun-grabbing bills, Democrat law-makers are poised for one ugly stand-off - aimed

at law-breakers and law abiding alike.

What's really at stake? Drunk with their "Super Majority" status, many Democrats banded together to introduce a super majority of unconstitutional bills this year. Many bills, once they become law January 1, 2014, actually will make criminals out of law abiding citizens, while doing nothing to prevent actual crime. Although severely out-numbered, there are a few common sense law enforcement measures on the horizon, introduced by reasonable Second Amendment patriots.

With the Constitution in hand, county sheriffs at our side, and some mighty filthy boots - GOC provides a narrow look at our 2013 Legislative List: **The Good, the Bad and the Ugly.**

The Good

We begin the list of Good bills with a plea for serious school safety measures -

Comprehensive School Safety Plans

AB 1264 / Conway (Rep)

School Marshall Plans

AB 202 - KILLED IN 1ST HEARING / Donnelly (Rep)

Issuance of Concealed Weapons permits

AB 871 - KILLED IN 1ST HEARING / Jones (Rep)

Public Records Act: Licenses to carry firearms

AB 134 / Logue (Rep)

Prohibited Persons

AB 1084 / Melendez (Rep)

Crimes Sentence Enhancements

AB 1148 / Melendez (Rep)

Peace Officers Game Refuges

SB 175 / Fuller (Rep)

Peace Officers - Training

AB 1040 / Wieckowski (Dem)

Peace Officer's State Issued Handgun

AB 685 / Achadjian (Rep)

Hunting

AB 1230 / Donnelly (Rep)

The Bad

Urgency Measure - Uses DROS funds to address DOJ backlog of Armed Prohibited Persons

SB 140 / Leno (Dem)

*** Urgency measures take effect as soon as they are signed into law - Requires a 2/3 vote in both Houses (Current Status: Governor Signed into Law)**

Firearms / Lost or Stolen Reports -48 Hour Enforcement SB 299 DeSaulnier (Dem)

Unsafe Firearms / Movie Prop Exemptions

AB 169 / Dickinson (Dem)

Delivery of Firearms and Prohibited Persons
AB 500 / Ammiano (Dem)

Firearms: Less than 6 transactions in a Single Year AB 740 / Alejo (Dem)

Agricultural District 1-A Firearms Sales - Cow Palace SB 475 / Leno (Dem)

Firearms: residential Storage

SB 108 Yee (Dem)

Firearms - Purchases:

AB 1020 / Bonta (Dem)

Unsafe Handgun Criteria

SB 293 / Desaulnier (Dem)

Firearms / Prohibited Persons

AB 1296 / Skinner (Dem) FRIEARMES DEALERS:

FORFEITURE OF LICENSE

Firearms / Shotguns

SB 567 / Jackson (Dem) REVISES THE DEFINITION OF A SHOTGUN

Hunting: Non-lead Ammunition

AB 711 / Rendon (Dem)

Bobcat Protection Act

AB 1213 / Bloom (Dem)

Personal Income Taxes - Credits: Gun Buy Back Program

AB 232 / Ting (Dem)

Public Employee Retirement Systems: Investments

AB 761 / Dickinson (Dem)

The UGLY

Firearms: Criminal Storage

AB 231 / Ting (Dem)

Ammunition: Purchase Permits

SB 53 / de Leon (Dem)

Ammunition Feeding Devices

AB 48 / Skinner (Dem)

Ammunition Tax

AB180 / Bonta (Dem)

Taxation: Ammunition: Public Safety

Emergency

AB187 / Bonta (Dem)

Taxes: Ammunition Sales

AB 760 / Dickinson (Dem)

Magazine Capacity

SB 396 / Hancock (Dem)

Assault Weapons &.50 BMG Rifles

AB 170 / Bradford (Dem)

Assault Weapons - Bullet Button: Revises Provisions

SB 47 / Yee (Dem)

Assault Weapons

SB 374 / Steinberg (Dem)

Firearms Control

SJR 1 / Wolk (Dem)