

# HOWELL SHOOTING CLUB

February 2004

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT..... DAVID LOMBARDO**  
1113 S. Raven Road; Shorewood, IL 60431  
Tel: 815-741-3474  
Fax: 815-741-3479  
[wordsmith@voyager.net](mailto:wordsmith@voyager.net)

**VICE PRESIDENT.....JEFF WAGNER**  
Tel : 1-(630)-236-1945  
[jwagner@howellshootingclub.com](mailto:jwagner@howellshootingclub.com)

**SECRETARY ..... LIZ TRYZNA**  
Tel: 1-630-267-7520  
[liz@howellshootingclub.com](mailto:liz@howellshootingclub.com)

**TREASURER ..... LARRY YACKLEY**  
Tel: 1-(815) 467-4514  
[yack@cbcast.com](mailto:yack@cbcast.com)

**RANGE SAFETY OFFICER..KRIS KROHN**  
Tel: 1- (815)-727-1632  
fax: 1-(815)-727-4391  
e-mail [Skidoggh20@aol.com](mailto:Skidoggh20@aol.com)

**MATCH DIRECTOR.....KEITH TOMES**  
Tel,1-630-369-1474  
Email: [ocwannabee@msn.com](mailto:ocwannabee@msn.com)

**WORK DIRECTOR- KERRY KRICKBERG**  
Tel: 1-630-552-3424  
[kerrykrick@worldnet.com](mailto:kerrykrick@worldnet.com)

Any questions concerning the operation of the Club can be brought up at the Monthly Membership Meeting or by contacting any of the above Directors.

You can submit your ideas or articles for the newsletter to any Board member or Bob Shamasko in the following manners:

Phone (630)553-7372  
Fax (630) 754-2521 (days)  
E-mail: [rls6@hotmail.com](mailto:rls6@hotmail.com)

**WEBMASTER JEFF WAGNER**  
[jwagner@howellshootingclub.com](mailto:jwagner@howellshootingclub.com)

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**Calendars for MORE courses and events being offered by The Howell Shooting Club and The Range and Field Training Team can be viewed at:**  
[www.howellshootingclub.com](http://www.howellshootingclub.com)

An AWESOME year for activities and training !!!!!

**HSC Events Calendar 2004**  
All General Membership meetings begin at 9 a.m.

## March

- . March 07 General Meeting
- . **March 31 Final membership due Date**

## April

- . April 01 New Membership Year
- . April 4 General Meeting
- . April 15 Tax Day

## May

- . May 2 General Meeting

## June

- . NO General Meeting

## July

- . July 4 (?) General Meeting

## August

- . August 1 General Meeting

## September

- . September 5 General Meeting

## October

- . October 3 General Meeting

## November

- . November 7 General Meeting

## December

- . December 5 General Meeting

. Club Fun shoots first Sunday of the month May through October

## Minutes of Howell Shooting

### Club General Meeting

#### February 1, 2004

Unanimous decision to approve minutes from last month.

Treasurer's financial report forwarded  
**REPORTS:**

A: President—Dave McKinney was nice enough to build our trailer for the Chicago land Outdoor Show. We need to deal now with the zoning board to get approved for center fire rifle.

B: Vice President—Not present

C: Secretary—Nothing new

D: Treasurer—Not present

E: Range Safety Officer—Don't forget to be safe on those ranges!

F: Match Director—The first Sunday in May is the El Presidente shoot. Have the kids come for this one! John Millington will provide a holster if he has one for your gun. He'll also have a .357 and holster to use. Please practice!

G: Director-Youth Camp—Hunter Ed is full. There are only about five openings left for regular camp. There will be a shorter awards ceremony this year.

H: Director-Work Committee—Not present

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

A: Chicago land Outdoor Show—We got the space for free. Were able to get camp applications and membership information out. Had 722 shooters at the air rifle range there.

B: Worker appreciation dinner is March 6<sup>th</sup>.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

A: **Membership renewal MUST be finished by March 31<sup>st</sup>**; otherwise we're not covered by our insurance. You will not be a member after that date and will need to pay the initiation fee again.

B: New member procedure—we will vote on new members after introduction and proof of documentation.

C: New members—Blair Hicks and son James from Plainfield. Joe Dobbs heard about us from Kendall County fair. Motion to adjourn made by K. Tomes, seconded by Tryzna.

ATTENTION!!!!

1: We will hold an American Heart Association First aid and CPR certification class on Saturday March 13<sup>th</sup>, from 10:00 to 4:00. Cost will be \$25 per person. Everyone interested contact Bob Goeppel at [scoutmedic@hotmail.com](mailto:scoutmedic@hotmail.com) no later than March 5<sup>th</sup>!!

2: Everyone who is a licensed first responder, EMT, or paramedic and is interested in being a member of the Howell Shooting Club Medical Safety Team, contact Bob Goeppel at [scoutmedic@hotmail.com](mailto:scoutmedic@hotmail.com) ASAP. There is a form you must fill out as the team will be under medical control of Loyola Hospital EMS system. System entry is not needed; this will be a BCS 1<sup>st</sup> responder team only.

From the President's Pen

### **“A Hundred Middle Class White Guys”**

David A. Lombardo

“With all due respect,” he said referring to Howell Shooting Club, “nobody is going to get very excited about a hundred middle class white guys shooting in a farmer's field.” It was the gatekeeper of some grant money that coined that particular turn of a phrase. Well, with all due respect to the few members who don't fall into that category, the description is apt and that may be more of a problem than our membership realizes. Consider our situation.

First, we live in a country where the average age of shooting sports enthusiasts and hunters continues to climb. We are attracting fewer young people every year and that alone spells the extinction of the sport if the trend is not reversed soon.

Worse, the sports are only marginally better today than they were 10, 25 or even 50 years ago about attracting women and people of color. The latter is particularly vexatious because in the rural South most black families own firearms and are hunters yet we have not been able to attract persons of color to the sports in the North nor have we seriously tried.

It is easy to dismiss the situation but there are three kinds of voters on a given issue: Supporters, detractors and undecided. You're unlikely to change the opinion of the first two but the majority of people, on the issue of the shooting sports, are undecided. The more we are the sport of middle class white guys, the less voter support we have when critical issues come to the political forefront. If attrition within our ranks doesn't do us in, public perception will and our recent air rifle range at the Chicagoland Outdoor Show bears this out.

During the five days of operating the air rifle range we had 722 people shoot. Though the show was well attended by women, Blacks and Hispanics, few took advantage of the opportunity to shoot for free. White males topped the list at 506 followed by white females at 131. Only 12 Black males and two Black females participated. There were 20 Hispanic males, four Hispanic females, 13 Asian/Pacific Islander males and 5 females, 17 Native American males and seven females. Most telling was that 637 of the shooters were under the age of 18. Kids of all types love shooting but have little opportunity.

Second, we live in a state that has long been run, or at least significantly influenced by, the anti-Second Amendment faction. They're hard to beat because they're willing to lie and make up statistics to bolster their position. It is critical in Illinois that the shooting sports actively recruit those that have historically been excluded. You may be absolutely certain that Mayor Richard Daley takes every opportunity to indoctrinate those same individuals about the necessity of gun control. By

our lack of interest as a group, we are driving them into his open arms.

Finally, we are located in a geographic area that is growing rapidly. It is only a matter of time before the sound of developers will be heard in the distance. Growth will inevitably cause our walls to crumble but how soon is the issue. The more we are perceived to be an asset to the county, the longer we will exist. The same holds true for grant money.

There is grant money available to build rifle ranges, fund programs, buy firearms and a host of other endeavors but quite simply a hundred middle class white guys doesn't excite anyone. The long-term survival of the club depends upon how successful we are at reaching out to historically under-represented groups and our support of local law enforcement's training needs.

Certainly the kid's camp, our NRA shooting courses, Refuse To Be A Victim courses and the Power For Women program are all important outreach efforts. The Outdoor Women program this Spring and the Family Fun Shoot this Fall are also steps in the right direction as are the proposed Wednesday night shooting leagues but to survive we need to be even more proactive.

I am currently exploring instituting a relationship between the VFW, Crosman, the National Shooting Sports Foundation and the Boy Scouts of America to coordinate a youth air rifle team competition. Similarly, I'm looking at the possibility of the club sponsoring a Boy Scout Venturing program. Make no mistake, being involved with these types of programs opens us up to grant money that will continue to buy equipment and facilities that the club members will also be able to use. It also facilitates bringing fresh blood into the sport and makes us a better neighbor. As one individual said, “You're going to gain a lot more support when you start being identified with groups such as the VFW and Boy Scouts.”

So here's my offer, I need individuals

who are willing to coordinate events such as the Wednesday night shooting leagues, the Family Fun Shoot, kid's air rifle competitions and so on. I am willing to conduct, and pay out of my own pocket for the classroom materials to teach, the NRA basic pistol, rifle and shotgun courses for anyone that's willing to pitch in and volunteer to help organize programs. You provide your own ammunition and firearm. If you don't have an appropriate firearm, I'll see to it you get one to use. Bring your spouse too. As your president I'm willing to put my money where my mouth is; just how serious are you about the health of the shooting sports and your club? Otherwise, shoot fast because it's hard to say how long there'll be anyplace to shoot in Illinois.

Best wishes and safe shooting.

dal

### **Regarding the proposed Wednesday night Shooting Leagues.**

I envision the Wednesday night league as a very family friendly atmosphere. Not cut throat competitive at all. We want people to come out and have fun. Families are highly encouraged including younger shooters though it isn't appropriate for totally inexperienced shooters. We still haven't had anyone offer to run shotgun or rifle though.

dal

**All those that are elected to Office are NOT friends of gun owners !**

**Legislation introduced in the Illinois General Assembly, January/February 2004**

From a mass emailing by John Birch of Concealed Carry.

Complied by

**Take Back Illinois  
2nd Amendment Committee**

**TBI-2A**

**POB432**

**Findlay, IL 62534**

**217-756-9009**

**HB3987 RETIRED OFFICERS-**

### **FIREARMS**

A bill to give retired police officers Concealed Carry privilege but not the common citizen. Isn't that against the 14th Amendment Section I of the US Constitution? "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States: nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law: nor deny to any person within it's jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws"

### **HB3989 FIREARM OWNERS-18 YRS**

Drops the age requirement for a FOID card from 21 to 18

### **HB3990 FIREARM OWNERS-RECORDS**

Reduces the time for holding firearm records for private individuals from 10 years to 5

### **HB4074 CRIM CD-FIREARMS SALES**

Eliminates the provision that requires the register of concealable firearm sales and gifts kept by a dealer to include the occupation of the person to whom the firearm is sold or given.

### **HB4087 HANDGUN- TRIGGER LOCKS**

Provides that a dealer may not sell, offer for sale, rent, or transfer in this State a handgun manufactured on or before December 31, 2005 unless the handgun is sold, offered for sale, rented, or transferred with an external safety lock. Provides that beginning January 1, 2006, a dealer may not sell, offer for sale, rent, or transfer in this State a handgun manufactured on or after January 1, 2006 unless the handgun has an integrated mechanical safety device.

**Provides that a violation is a Class 4 felony.**

### **HB4089 CRIM CD-PROHIBITED FIREARMS**

Requires the ISP to publish a list of firearms that melt or deform at 800 degrees.

### **HB4390 CRIM CD-LOOK ALIKE HANDGUN**

Creates the offense of unlawful use of a look-alike handgun. Provides that it is unlawful to use or display a device that a reasonable person would believe is a

handgun but that is not a handgun with the intent to use the device in the commission or attempted commission of a criminal offense.

### **HB4536 FIREARMS DEALERS LICENSE**

Creates the Firearm Dealer Licensing Act. Requires a person who engages in the business of selling or transferring firearms to be licensed by the Department of State Police. Establishes qualifications for licenses. Provides that it is a Class 4 felony to engage in the business of selling or transferring firearms without a license. **Requires a licensed firearms dealer who sells or transfers a firearm to a person who is not a licensed dealer to report that sale or transfer to the Department of State Police.**

### **HB4561 CRIM CD-TRANSFER-FIREARMS**

Changes references in the statute on unlawful sale of firearms from "sell" or "give" to "transfer". **Prohibits multiple sales of handguns within a 30-day period.** Creates the offense of unlawful acquisition of handguns.

### **HB4599 CRIM CD-SNIPER WEAPONS**

Prohibits the distribution, transportation, importation into this State, sale, offer for sale or possession of 50 caliber sniper weapons.

### **HB4781 PUBLIC SAFETY-TECH**

Amends the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act. This guy must be bored.

### **HB4835 FIREARM TRANSFERS-PENALTIES**

**Allows the police to demand to inspect your firearm records and your stock at will.**

### **HB4896 CRIM CD-BANS SEMIAUTOMATIC**

SB1195 with a new skin. SSDD

### **HB4897 CRIM CD-AMMUNITION FEEDING**

Hi Cap mag ban. **Within 90 days after that date, to destroy the device, render the device permanently inoperable, relinquish the device to a law enforcement agency, or remove the device from the State. Yea Right!!!**

### **HB4949 CRIM CD-WEAPONS**

Provides that a prosecution for unlawful

sale of firearms, unlawful purchase of a firearm, gunrunning, or defacing identification marks of firearms may be commenced within 10 years after the commission of the offense. 10 years? I thought the statute of limitations was 7.

#### **HR0656 CONGRESS-RENEW FED ASSAULT BAN**

Urges the United States Congress and the President of the United States to renew and strengthen the federal ban on military-style assault weapons and to ban the import of large capacity ammunition magazines.

#### **SB2162 FIREARM OWNERS-RECORDS**

Provides that a person who transfers or causes to be transferred a firearm within the State must keep a record of the transfer for a period of 5 (rather than 10) years from the date of the transfer.

#### **SB2163 FIREARM OWNERS-18**

Changes, from 21 years of age or over to 18 years of age or over, the age at which a person may apply for and be issued a Firearm Owner's Identification Card without the consent of a parent or legal guardian.

#### **SB2188 RETIRED OFFICERS-FIREARMS**

A bill to give retired police officers Concealed Carry privilege but not the common citizen. Isn't that against the 14th Amendment Section I? "Nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.?"

#### **SB2473 FIREARMS DEALERS LICENSE**

Requires a person who engages in the business of selling or transferring firearms to be licensed by the Department of State Police. Establishes qualifications for licenses. Provides that it is a Class 4 felony to engage in the business of selling or transferring firearms without a license. Requires a licensed firearms dealer who sells or transfers a firearm to a person who is not a licensed dealer to report that sale or transfer to the Department of State Police.

#### **SB2495 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-ORDER PROTECT**

Requires that, in an emergency order of protection and an interim or plenary order of protection, specified language

be stated.

#### **SB2561 CRIM CD-BANS SEMIAUTOMATIC**

New Senate bill on SB1195. Prohibits the knowing manufacture, delivery, and possession of semiautomatic Homeland Security Weapons, large capacity ammunition feeding devices, and assault weapon attachments.

#### **SB2562 CRIM CD-AMMUNITION FEEDING**

Prohibits the knowing manufacture, delivery, and possession of a large capacity ammunition feeding device (a magazine, belt, drum, feed strip, or similar device that has a capacity of, or that can be readily restored or converted to accept, more than 10 rounds of ammunition and any combination of parts from which such a device can be assembled).

#### **SB2574 CRIM CD-TRANSFER-FIREARMS**

**Prohibits multiple sales of handguns within a 30-day period.**

#### **SB2939 PUBLIC SAFETY-TECH**

Amends the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act. Makes technical changes in a Section concerning a legislative declaration.

#### **SB3132 FIREARMS-CONCEALED-PERMITS**

Creates the Family and Personal Protection Act. Establishes statewide uniform standards for the issuance of permits to carry concealed firearms in this State.

#### **SR0402 CONGRESS-RENEW ASSAULT BAN**

Urges the United States Congress and the President of the United States to renew and strengthen the federal ban on military-style assault weapons and to ban the import of large capacity ammunition magazines.

Find any I might have missed? Contact me and I'll sent out a notice.

Mac McWilliams

#### **From the Illinois State Rifle Assoc.**

#### **Wilmette Lawyers Helpless to Stop Progress of New Illinois Senate Self-Defense Bills**

SB2165 and SB2386 Breeze Through Judiciary Committee Today

A pair of bills that would leave the Wilmette Handgun Ban effectively toothless passed out of the Illinois Senate Judiciary Committee today - despite the protests of the Wilmette Corporation Counsel.

SB2165, Co-sponsored by Ed Petka (R-Plainfield) and George Shadid (D-Pekin), and SB2386 sponsored by the same two senators combine to do two things. First, they provide someone with an affirmative defense against prosecution under gun bans such as Wilmette's in cases where someone has used a firearm to protect themselves or others against criminals. Second, the bills prohibit criminals from suing homeowners who shoot or otherwise harm them during the commission of a crime.

Despite strong bipartisan support on the committee for both bills, Wilmette's Corporation Counsel testified against both measures - asserting that the village trustees know what is best for Wilmette, not the state legislature.

All those who read this alert should contact their state senators and urge them to **VOTE FOR SB2386 and SB2165** when the bills come to a vote before the full senate.

Remember: **"Gun owners have nothing to fear from me"** candidate Rod Blagojevich - Effingham, Illinois August 2002

*From The Chicago Tribune, January 2004*

*This year, however, the governor said he would "enthusiastically" support such measures. "I'd fight for that," he said of the assault-weapons proposal*

Dangerous laws created by well intentioned people today can be used by dangerous people with evil intentions tomorrow." - Alan Eppers

State pamphlet for firearms transportation. Courtesy of Champaign County Rifle Association.  
<http://www.gunssavelife.com/GSLife/carrygun.pdf>