



SAGA SNIPPETS

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HuntEx Cape Game Fair

Advance Notice: SAGA will once again have a stand at the HuntEx Cape Game Fair held on the Nelson Wine Estate, Paarl on 26 –28 September 2014. Show times are 09:00-17:00 Friday to Sunday.

The outdoor activities this year include a traditional British Game Fair, with archery, clay shooting, hunting dog and falconry demonstrations, etc. There will be airgun

and centre-fire rifle competitions, and much more.

For information on the show visit: www.huntexcape.net

A Study on First-Time Gun Buyers in the US

A study commissioned by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF) reveals that first-time gun buyers are largely active in one or more shooting activities and that women are motivated to purchase their first firearm predominately for personal defense. The study was undertaken to help determine the motivations for a first firearm purchase and how these firearms are being used.

The online research was conducted in March/April 2013 and involved consumers aged 22 to 65 who bought their first firearm during 2012. Invitations to participate were sent to a random sample reflecting the geographic and demographic distribution of the US population based on the latest US Census. InfoManiacs Inc. conducted the research. The majority of first-time buyers (60.3%) tend to be active, using their gun once per month or more, with one in five reporting usage of once a week or more.

Target shooting is by far the most popular shooting activity among first-time gun owners, with 84.3%

of respondents saying they used their firearms for this purpose, followed by hunting (37.7%) and plinking (27.4%). Practical pistol shooting (17.3%) and clay-target shooting (14.6%) were shooting sports also enjoyed by first-time buyers.

The top-ranking factors driving first-time gun purchases are home defense (87.3%), self-defense (76.5%) and the desire to share shooting activities with family and friends (73.2%). Women, in particular, are highly focused on personal defense and self-sufficiency.

The most important features driving the selection of a particular gun are primarily based in practicality and usefulness for a particular purpose. The most important factors are: best for my particular use (89.9%), fit for hand/body (86.0%), high quality (85.4%), most practical (82.5%), and best value (77.4%). Features such as calibre, brand, style, power, etc were all secondary to fit, quality and value.

Most first-time buyers purchased their guns through local gun shops (43.6%) and mass retailers such as Walmart and Cabela's (33.6%). First-time gun buyers spent an average of \$515 on their first gun and nearly as much on accessories (\$504). Nearly a quarter of these buyers bought at least one more firearm within the first year after their first purchase spending more, on average, on the later purchase.

Semi-automatic pistols (34.0%), shotguns (24.7%) and revolvers (19.5%) were the most frequently purchased guns.

The NSSF is the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry in the USA. Its mission is to promote, protect and preserve hunting and the shooting sports. Formed in 1961 it has a membership of over 8,000. www.nssf.org

Information extracted from the WFSA July 2014 Newsletter (World Forum on Shooting Activities) and the NSSF Report.

Firearms Handed in for Destruction

Section 149 of the Firearms Control Act (FCA) provides for the compulsory destruction of firearms by the police but only of firearms forfeited to the state in terms of the Act.

In terms of regulation 94 any person who is legally entitled to possess a firearm or ammunition and who is the owner of such firearm or ammunition may surrender such firearm or ammunition and accompanying licence or permit to SAPS who must then have them forensically tested to establish whether they had been involved in crime, whereafter permission will be sought from the Registrar to have them destroyed. Regulation 104 prescribes the procedure to be followed once a decision has been taken to have firearms destroyed.

The fact that a person has surrendered a firearm ought to be no impediment on any future licence application by her or him.

An even more important aspect is the responsibility of the police to care for these surrendered firearms and ammunition until such time they are destroyed. Since criminals are aware that the state (military, police and other agencies) is a good source of firearms, they will always try to gain access thereto, either by way of corruption or by breaking into such safe-keeping facilities with the intent to steal them. People who have surrendered firearms to the police have a real expectation that the firearms will be destroyed.

In terms of the FCA, the SAPS must ensure that all surrendered fire-

arms are tested by the ballistics unit of the police to establish whether or not any might have been involved in crime. If so, further investigations need to be carried out. If not, the firearms may be destroyed after the Registrar has given permission.

However, if the police do not apply due diligence and ensure that all procedures are followed, some or all of these firearms and ammunition may fall into wrong hands and be used to commit crime. There is, accordingly, a huge responsibility on the police to carry out their constitutional mandate and not to collaborate and cooperate with criminals.

Extracted from comments made by SAGA spokesman John Welch in response to media queries.

Beretta Moves All Manufacturing Out of Maryland



By Mark Keefe, 22 July 2014

Beretta has announced that due to Maryland's oppressive gun laws they will move all their manufacturing in the USA from Maryland to Tennessee, a far more firearm friendly state.

Founded in Gardonne, Italy, in 1526, Beretta is not only the world's oldest firearms manufacturer, but the family-held company is the oldest continuous maker of anything.

At stake are 160 manufacturing jobs held since the 1980s. The company headquarters and some gunsmithing and repair operations will remain in Maryland.

Extracted from:
http://www.americanrifleman.org/blogs/Beretta-moves-all-manufacturing-out-of-maryland/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=BerettaMoves-text&utm_campaign=Salvo12

Watch this space ...for more interesting firearm snippets

UN Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider Implementation of the Programme of Action (BMS-5)

New York, 16-20 June 2014

The Fifth UN Biennial Meeting on the Programme of Action (PoA) on Small Arms and Light Weapons (BMS-5) was held in New York from 16 – 22 June 2014. Ambassador Zahir Tanin of Afghanistan chaired the gathering. It was extremely well attended with close to 60 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) present. Ten of the NGOs were affiliated with the firearms community and as the leading firearms group at the UN, the WFSA was asked to coordinate the efforts of these organizations. Part of the BMS-5 morning session on 19 June was set aside for NGO presentations. After intense negotiations the WFSA was allocated twenty-two and a half minutes for firearms community comments on the PoA.

The WFSA itself, along with five members and affiliates, spoke under the WFSA banner. WFSA President Herbert Keusgen addressed the meeting for WFSA; Mauro Silvis spoke for the Italian National Association of Manufacturers of Sporting and Civilian Firearms and Ammunition (ANPAM); Klaus Gotzen presented for the German Association of Manufacturers of Sporting and Hunting Firearms and Ammunition (JSM); Tony Bernardo represented the Canadian Shooting Sports Associations (CSSA); Rebecca Waterman spoke for the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association (NMLRA); and Thomas Saldias represented the first Latin American firearms association, Coalición Armas Legales Latinoamericanas (CALL), to give a presentation representing the South American firearms community. These speeches are available at

the following link:
http://www.wfsa.net/leg_01.html

The following delegates spoke outside the WFSA umbrella: Ted Bromund for the Heritage Foundation; Sheldon Clare representing the Canadian National Firearms Association (NFA); Thomas Moore for the Defense Small Arms Advisory Council (DSAAC); Rick Patterson representing the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute (SAAMI); and Julianne Versnel for the Second Amendment Foundation (SAF).



Four anti-firearms groups also gave presentations coordinated by the International Action Network on Small Arms (IANSA). One of the IANSA presentations was an emotional appeal by David Wheeler, a parent of one of the victims of the tragic Sandy Hook incident. His presentation had little to do with the PoA itself, but received a sympathetic response from the much of the audience. Ambassador Tanin, chair of the BMS-5, violated his role as a neutral presiding officer when he left the chair to recognize Wheeler. The act was unprecedented and unfortunately demonstrated the anti-gun bias of the meeting and the UN itself. An official from the UN admitted that he had arranged for Tanin to make this gesture.

Regardless of the bias of the meeting, the report of the gathering was relatively benign. Expanding

the PoA to include regulation of civilian possession of firearms has been the goal of anti-firearms groups since the inception of the PoA. This was again avoided at the BMS-5 thanks to the efforts of the US Government. Likewise, there has also been an effort to expand the PoA to include ammunition. This too was rejected.

A further UN initiative which anti-gun groups wished to have referenced in the report of the BMS-5 and included in the PoA was the International Small Arms Control Standards or ISACS. Fortunately, all references to ISACS were dropped in the BMS-5 report.

Likewise, the PoA was *not* expanded was in relation to „smart gun“ technology. Two of the firearms community speakers, Rick Patterson of SAAMI and Thomas Moore of DSAAC, pointed out the impracticality of many of the smart gun technologies being touted by certain manufacturers. Smart guns are not favored by most military and police forces and some proposals, such as micro-stamping, can be easily defeated.

Although the PoA was not expanded and the report of the BMS-5 was relatively low key, recommendations were adopted necessitating several future meeting on the PoA. These will include an experts meeting on marking and tracing in 2015, a BMS-6 in 2016 and a PoA review conference in 2018.

Taken from the WFSA (The World Forum on Shooting Activities) July 2014 Newsletter.
See www.wfsa.net

Five Most Dangerous Firearms

The NRA's ILA has noted with some amusement an article by Kristen Gwynne and her editors from *Rolling Stone* magazine. Titled, "The Five Most Dangerous Guns in America" it promises to reveal to readers "the guns most often recovered from crime scenes and/or used in murders," based on examinations of "trace data from the ATF, as well as FBI homicide records."

Gun control advocates have long sought to portray certain firearms as more "deadly" or "dangerous" than others, and therefore more urgently in need of banning. Their efforts have focused on such things as concealability, rates of fire, magazine capacity, similarity to military arms, melting points and detectability of major components, calibers, how the firearm is gripped, how it is aimed, its ability to accept accessories, how it reacts to being dropped on a hard surface, and even its color

scheme. Guns have been faulted for being too accurate, too inaccurate, too inexpensive, to user-friendly, too easy to carry, too easy to make, too easy to load, too quiet, and even too appealing to kids...

...After exhaustively combing through the data, Gwynne finally determined that the five most dangerous firearms in America are (in descending order of dangerousness):

1. Pistols;
2. Revolvers;
3. Rifles;
4. Shotguns; and
5. Derringers.

In other words, the defining characteristic of a crime gun is that it falls within one of the major categories of firearms.

Based on these startling findings, we can thank Gwynne for at least two things.

First, she has created an endlessly amusing new internet meme where people reveal the five most dangerous types of something in categories that end up capturing every member of the larger group. The five most dangerous oceans, shockingly, are the Pacific, the Atlantic, the Indian, the Arctic, and the Antarctic. Meanwhile, the five most dangerous positions to play in basketball include center, point guard, shooting guard, power forward, and small forward. And the lists go on, including the five most dangerous whole numbers between one and five.

Second, she has found a creative way to reiterate a point that we often make ourselves, which is that it doesn't matter what type of features, operating system, or capacity a firearm has. What matters is who is holding it and why.

Posted on July 18, 2014

Proposal for a lead ban at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics



This proposal is related to a research paper published by a Canadian expert shortly before the opening of the Sochi Winter Olympic Games last February. This paper urged the International Olympic Committee to ban the use of lead shot shells for all Olympic shooting and qualification events worldwide following the 2016 Olympics. The ISSF took immediate action at IOC meetings in Sochi to inform the IOC of the real facts related to the use of lead in Olympic shooting.

WFSA also took swift action, creating an ad-hoc working group to collaborate with ISSF in order to determine the best strategy to counter this proposal. After a conference call and a meeting held in Munich between WFSA and ISSF, the threat to the use of lead shot shells appears to have diminished. However, WFSA will continue to monitor the situation.

Taken from WFSA (The World Forum on Shooting Activities) July 2014 Newsletter

Advertising Standards Authority Ruling Extracts

11 July 2014

....The ASA Directorate considered all the relevant documentation submitted by the respective parties.

Clause 4.1 of Section II states, inter alia, that an advertiser must hold documentary evidence to support all claims that are capable of objective substantiation. In addition, it clarifies that such documentary evidence shall emanate from or be evaluated by an independent and credible expert in the particular field to which the claims relate. In addition, the Code requires that substantiation be 'up to date and current...'

Clause 4.2.1 of Section II states that advertisements should not contain any statement or visual presentation which, directly or by omission, ambiguity, or exaggerated claim, is likely to mislead the consumer about the advertised product.

.....The advertisement paints a picture of the former owner of the gun as an accessory to a crime. The use of the words "IF YOUR STOLEN GUN WAS

THERE, SO WERE YOU." implies that the person whose gun has been stolen contributes to the crime in some way, almost suggesting negligence on the part of the owner.

....A lot of the respondent's research dates back as far as 1994, and it would appear that the respondent has extrapolated its findings and statistics from this research. While the complainant is incorrect in arguing that the source of such research is automatically required, he is correct in suggesting that the advertisement oversimplifies the matter, and places what appears to be an unjustified blame on gun owners... the respondent appears to omit the fact that the consequence portrayed is one of a couple of possibilities, and in doing so, creates a misleading impression of the reality, and of the responsibility of legal gun owners.

Based on the above, the advertisement is creating a misleading impression of the surrounding circumstances, and is therefore in breach of Clause 4.2.1 of Section II of the Code.

In light of the above:

- The advertisement must be withdrawn;
- The process to withdraw the advertisement in all forms must be actioned with immediate effect on receipt of this ruling;
- The withdrawal of the advertisement in all forms must be completed within the deadlines stipulated by Clause 15.3 of the Procedural Guide;
- The advertisement may not be used again in its current format and context.

The complaint is upheld.

NOTE:

As this Snippets was being finalised, SAGA was notified by the ASA that GFSa have appealed the ruling. SAGA is in the process of determining what is now required to challenge the appeal.

