



## Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League Christmas 2013 Newsletter

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### Upcoming Meetings:

**Lake Charles area** LOCAL meeting will be held on Monday, Jan 6th, 2014 at CiCi's Pizza, 3533 Ryan St, Lake Charles, LA at 5:30 pm.

**Northwest area** LOCAL is meeting Wednesday, Jan 8th at Southfield Grill, 1810 Benton Rd, Bossier at 6:30 pm.

The **Southeast Chapter** of LOCAL will meet on Wednesday, Jan 8, 2014 at the IHOP restaurant, 220 Belle Terre Blvd, LaPlace, at 6:30 pm.

The **Baton Rouge area** LOCAL meeting will be on Wednesday, Jan 15, 2014 at the IHOP restaurant on College Drive in Baton Rouge, La, at 6:30 pm.

The **Lafayette area** LOCAL meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan 15, 2014 at Extreme Machine & Urethane 202 E. Angus Dr. Youngsville, LA 70592 at 6:30 pm.  
Being this is the first meeting in the area it is at a private business.

The **Florida Parish area** of LOCAL will meet on Monday, Jan 20, 2014 at the IHOP restaurant 325 N Highway 190 in COVINGTON, LA 70433 at 6:30 pm.  
More meetings will be announced as they are scheduled...

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### Coming Gun Shows:

Dec 28-29 Alexandria, LA

Jan 25-26 Kenner, LA

Jan 4-5 Lake Charles

Jan 11-12 Shreveport,

Jan 18-19 Gonzales

Feb 8-9 Bossier City

Feb 15-16 Lafayette

Mar 15-16 Kenner

Mar 22-23 Bossier City  
Mar 22-23 Gonzales

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### **Elections:**

It looks like an entirely uncontested sweep in this year's officer elections as all were unopposed! The official LOCAL Officer Nomination 2013 thread can be found **HERE** in the LOCAL Forums.

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### **From the VP:**

First of all I hope that you had a Merry Christmas and that you have a very happy New Year!

It has been a busy year for me! I have been doing a TON of work behind the scenes on the Websites and dealing with the media sites that I created LOCAL pages for such as **Twitter**, **Meetup.com**, **Tumblr**, **Pinterest**, **Craig's List** and our Store at **Zazzle** in addition to my usual duties logging new members and configuring their settings on the forums!

I, along with Steve, am also working on incorporating a link to join the **NRA** on our site. This will allow a user to join the **NRA AND LOCAL** for the standard **NRA** membership rate of \$30 per year so it is like getting LOCAL membership free!

There have been a ton of small changes that I have made to our web sites and forums as well. Some of these changes are seen and some not. The changes are to make things work better or to better present our message to the public such as the addition of new photos and news articles, reformatting of several screens and the constant updating of the right info column.

If you have a suggestion for the websites, please email me at [webmaster@laopencarry.org](mailto:webmaster@laopencarry.org) with your suggestion/addition and we will see what we can do!

Speedy Mercer  
League VP, President, Northwest Chapter of LOCAL  
Shreveport, LA

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### **President's Message:**

I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

LOCAL continues to grow and fulfill its mission of educating the public about the right to bear arms in our great state.

We are seeing lots of good work from our members when it comes to getting the word out. We regularly receive requests for copies of our pamphlets as well as other supplies such as the display stands for the pamphlets. The business cards are a big hit too. I've mailed out nearly 1000 pamphlets and probably 500 business cards in the past 3 weeks. Many times we get emails or private messages with photos attached showing our pamphlets and cards displayed at different businesses and public locations. We share these photos on our social media sites. This lets others know the work that's being done and has encouraged some to do the same.

If you know a business or other public place where our pamphlets or cards can be displayed or handed out please consider putting some out for us and letting us know about it.

### **Membership numbers rising and falling:**

Last month we announced that, as part of our membership drive, we would give away a LOCAL coffee mug to a randomly chosen member once we reach 150 members. In December we got very close to our goal but backslid when several members' dues expired. We are working on recruiting more members and hope to see our goal of 150 members in the coming weeks.

If you know someone who is an open carry supporter and who supports the LOCAL mission please encourage them to join us as a member.

Steve Raacke, President

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### **Social Media Sites and Forums help get our message out:**

Many of our members are not regular users of some of the different social media sites out there. You may be one of those who don't use **Facebook** or **Twitter**. You probably don't know what **Pinterest** or **Tumblr** are. You probably don't visit a lot of different online discussion forums. Many people do though and we have gotten our message out to thousands of people by using such sites. For instance, just take a minute to look at some of the following links which show some of the ways we announce our meetings to the public.

Of course you probably know about our own **LOCAL discussion forum**.

Here is what the announcement for the December meetings looked like:

<http://laopencarry.freeforums.org/viewtopic.php?f=0&t=1567&sid=adb872bd0b9c4e5401760630bfa491b1>

But that same announcement was shared on many other forums including

**Bug Out Whale:** <http://www.bugoutwhale.com/showthread.php/13018-LOCAL-Meetings-for-December-2013?p=150068#post150068>

**Defensive Carry:** <http://www.defensivecarry.com/forum/open-carry-issues-discussions/180007-join-local-december-2013-meetings.html>

**NOLATAC:** <http://forum.nolatac.com/showthread.php?1919-LOCAL-Meetings-for-December-2013&p=7837#post7837>

**OCDO:**

<http://forum.opencarry.org/forums/showthread.php?118896-LOCAL-Meetings-for-December-2013&p=2016465#post2016465>

**USA Carry:** <http://www.usacarry.com/forums/open-carry-discussion/41773-join-local-december-2013-meetings.html>

...and even the prepper forum known as **Zombie Squad:**  
<http://zombiehunters.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=38&t=110353>

We post something almost every day to our **Facebook** page including photos of pamphlets displayed in public and training such as upcoming CHP classes hosted by instructors who support us. Just take a look at our Facebook wall to see what we have been putting out to over 2000 followers: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Louisiana-Open-Carry-Awareness-League-LOCAL/124751677535026>

But that's just Facebook. How about **Twitter**? You say you don't have a Twitter account or don't know how to Tweet? Lots of people do and you can see what we have been sending them by clicking this link: [http://twitter.com/LOCAL\\_US](http://twitter.com/LOCAL_US)

Then there is our **Tumblr** site at <http://laopencarry.tumblr.com/>

Our **Pinterest** site shows photos pertaining to LOCAL and those photos have meeting announcements attached. Check it out at <http://Pinterest.com/laopencarry/>

We have even picked up members by posting our meeting announcements to **Meetup.com**. You can find us there at <http://www.meetup.com/Louisiana-Open-Carry-Awareness-League/>

So you can see that we pretty much shotgun the internet far and wide with our announcements. We need you to help us get the message out. If you use any of these forums or social media sites, please subscribe to our feeds and share our posts with others. Help us spread the word.

**NRA**

*Freedom through  
Strength*

**JOIN TODAY  
SAVE \$10!**