



Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League July 2014 Newsletter

Upcoming Meetings:

The **Northwest** area LOCAL is meeting Wednesday, July 2 at Southfield Grill, 1810 Benton Rd, Bossier at 6:30 pm.

The **Lake Charles** area monthly LOCAL meeting will be held July 8th, 530pm at Ci-Ci's pizza on Ryan St., Lake Charles, La.

The **Lafayette** area LOCAL meeting will be Tuesday, July 8, 2014 at 202 E. Angus Dr. in Youngsville, LA.

The **Florida Parish** group will meet at the IHOP in Covington on the 3rd Saturday, July 19.

The LOCAL **Baton Rouge** meet up will be held on Wednesday, July 23, 2014 at 6:00pm at the IHOP on College Drive in Baton Rouge. Discussion will include reviews of the Slidell and Ponchatoula Gun shows and plans for the Gonzales Gun Show as well as other area activities.

More meetings will be announced as they are scheduled...

Upcoming Gun Shows

July 12 & 13, 2014 – **Slidell, LA** - North Shore Harbor Center
July 19 & 20, 2014 - **Ponchatoula, LA** – Lions Club Bldg. - 750 Pine St.
July 26 & 27, 2014 - **Sulphur, LA**- West Cal Event Center
August 2 & 3, 2014 - **Gonzales, LA**- Lamar Expo Center

Join and Support LOCAL

Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League (LOCAL) needs you. LOCAL is actively reaching out to the public to educate people about the right to bear arms. We have put out thousands of our informational pamphlets and business cards and steered people toward our website. LOCAL is

putting tables at gun shows and mailing letters and information packets to agencies across our state. All of this costs money. Your membership dues and donations help us pay for these expenses. LOCAL is 100% volunteer. Every cent we get goes toward fulfilling our mission of spreading the word that we have the right to openly bear arms and protecting those rights. To join LOCAL or to donate so that we can continue our mission please go to our web page at <http://laopencarry.org> and click on the Join/Donate tab right under the Louisiana flag at the top of the page.



LOCAL Gun Show Tables in July, August

Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League (LOCAL) will have tables at two gun shows this month and a table in early August. First we will be in Slidell on July 12 and 13 and then in Ponchatoula the following weekend of July 19 and 20. On the weekend of August 2 and 3 LOCAL will have a table at the gun show in Gonzales.

None of this would be possible without the efforts of our dedicated members who are giving their time as well as their money to help these efforts. For instance, two LOCAL members each paid for half the cost of the table at the Slidell show. Other members donated to cover other expenses. A new banner as well as pamphlets and other handouts are paid for from the dues and donations we have received from our members and supporters.

If you have the opportunity to visit any of these gun shows be sure to look for our tables and stop by to visit with the LOCAL members working them. If you are not a member of LOCAL there will be paper copies of our membership form at the table which you can fill out as well as paperwork to join the National Rifle Association if you choose to.




LOCAL Members Put Their Best Foot Forward

Unless you have been on a deep space mission or adrift at sea for the past two months you have certainly heard about a photo of two members of Open Carry Texas posing with long guns in a Chipotle's restaurant. The photo was not flattering to gun owners in the least. We can learn a lot from what happened with this photo. Please understand that while it is legal to open carry long arms in Louisiana, we at Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League (LOCAL) are not encouraging this activity in normal public situations. Our goal at this time is to help normalize the sight of openly carried holstered handguns by average citizens in public. We leave advocating long gun carry to other organizations.

Also we have to understand that what we do and how we do it matters. When we open carry, for better or worse, we represent all gun owners. To the average citizens who see us shopping or gassing up our cars with our holstered pistols on our belts we are "those gun nuts". We are selling a product here. It's not vacuum cleaners or encyclopedias. It is Open Carry and gun ownership in general. That's right. When you are open carrying you are a salesperson. Would you buy a vacuum cleaner from a salesperson who showed up at your door in a pair of baggy gym shorts, t-shirt and boonie hat? Probably not. But put that salesperson in a clean pair of jeans or khaki slacks and a polo or nice button up shirt and there is a chance of a sale. Yes you have the right to carry your pistol openly while dressed in your old workout shorts and torn wife beater. Let's keep that for when you are doing yard work around the house.

When you get in the car to go out for groceries or to run errands, dress up a bit. Think business casual and not slumming in your mom's basement. People notice. They take photos. Those photos get to Bloomberg groups like Everytown. Those groups use those photos to attack our rights. They use them to have businesses ban carry on their property. Let's not give the gun banners any more ammo than they already have. Carry safely and responsibly and look good doing it.

HOW TO OPEN CARRY



WRONG

- Be a general asshat
- Wear ratty clothes, camo, etc
- Seek attention and/or take "selfies"
- Be oblivious to surroundings
- Carry longarm, esp. at low ready

RIGHT

- Be personable
- Dress sharply
- Avoid confrontation
- Have situational awareness
- Carry handgun in secure holster

Hearts and minds aren't won by being a pleb.

Training in July. Bearco Dynamic Focus Shooting 7/12/2014



Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League (LOCAL) strongly encourages anyone considering purchasing and carrying a firearm to attend training from a knowledgeable instructor. LOCAL has reached out to several firearms instructors who teach a variety of courses from Basic Handgun Safety, Concealed Permit Classes, Defensive/Combative pistol classes as well as classes in the use of shotguns and rifles/carbines.

We invite any instructor with such classes to post them to our discussion forum so that our members can be aware of them and sign up.

An example would be this post in the Training section of our Forum regarding a Dynamic Focus Shooting class which will be held in Covington, La on July 12, 2014. <http://laopencarry.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=17&t=110>

When we get posts like this we will include them in future newsletters with the link so that our readers will know about them.

LOCAL would also like to thank the numerous instructors who support us by handing our informational pamphlets to their students or simply mentioning our website when teaching their classes. Responsible and trained firearms owners are exactly who LOCAL wants to reach out to as we recruit more members.

LEGAL Disclaimer: *Nothing in this Newsletter should be considered legal advice. Always research laws for yourself and consult a practicing attorney regarding any questions you have regarding legal matters. Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League (LOCAL) does not offer legal advice and is not responsible for the actions of persons who act on any of the information presented here.*

© 2011 - 2014 Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League. All rights reserved. *Nothing here should be considered, nor is it intended to be considered as legal advice.*

