



# March 2015 Newsletter



## BATFE Moves to Ban M855 AR Rifle & Pistol Ammo:

The BATFE recently announced that in the interest of "Police Officer safety" it would ban the popular M855 "green tip" ammunition. This round is popular with many AR owners due to its low cost and availability. Many feel that this is just the "camel's nose" and will lead to further ammunition restrictions and bans. The BATFE is taking public comments until March 14. It is important that we let our voices be heard.

There are several sites which have put up web pages with simple, fill in the blank forms and places to submit a short letter. For example you can go to: <https://www.nra.org/take-action/write-your-lawmakers/ask-your-lawmakers-sign-the-letter-to-the-batfe/>.

That link will take you to a page the NRA has set up which will automatically email your House Representatives and Senators.

Some sites are asking you to submit a short letter. An example of such a letter would be as follows:

*Subject: Ammunition Ban, M855 AP—Oppose*

*I would like to express my opposition to the proposed "armor piercing" classification of M855 ammunition. This proposal represents bureaucratic overreach as the ammunition in question is not "armor piercing" and no data links it too any greater likelihood of criminal misuse than other ammunition in common use.*

*The proposed ban sets a highly disturbing precedent and, if allowed to stand, will almost certainly be followed by future bans on many other commonly used types of ammunition used by law abiding citizens for (continued in column 2)*

*(continued from column 1)*

*...recreation, competition, hunting and self-defense.*

*Sincerely,*

*YOUR NAME*

**Please take a few minutes to let your opinion be heard!** 

## LOCAL Member Donates Large Supply of Color Pamphlets:

Brannon LeBouef is the founder of NOLATAC Firearms Training (<http://www.nolatac.com/>) and the owner of the new Saint Bernard Indoor Shooting Center in Arabi, LA. Brannon is also a Founding member of LOCAL and has supported the organization since its formation with donations and ensuring that all of his customers see our pamphlets displayed on his counter or in their CHP class handout packages.

Recently Brannon was running low on LOCAL trifold pamphlets and had some printed. on his own, five thousand of them, in color, on heavy, glossy paper stock, and, wait for it... **folded!** Brannon then contacted LOCAL President Steve Raacke and asked if he could send him some of the pamphlets. "Sure" said Steve, thinking that at the most a couple hundred pamphlets stuffed in a manila envelope would show up in the mail. Instead the mailman arrived at Steve's door with two large Priority Mail boxes weighing about 10 pounds each and the boxes were **stuffed** with the new, high-quality pamphlets!

In the past, LOCAL officers have done everything possible to keep costs down and to use the donations we receive in a responsible manner. We traditionally have our pamphlets printed in bulk, on regular copy paper and not folded by the printer. Many people who have attended LOCAL meetings learned the joys of folding pamphlets by the dozens or hundreds. While this is a very inexpensive way of getting our pamphlets out to the public it doesn't win any points for appearance and is pretty labor intensive.

Brannon's donation of these professional looking pamphlets will be a welcome addition to our stock of handouts and will be front and center on our upcoming gun show tables and as such, LOCAL would like to formally thank Brannon LeBouef for his generous donation. We encourage our members and supporters to visit the St. Bernard Indoor Shooting Range (212 Aycock Street, Arabi, LA 70032). The range is open every day except Tuesday from 10am to 8pm. Give them a call at 504-982-5433 if you have any questions. Brannon teaches one of the best CHP classes you can find in the State as well as other personal defense courses. He is hosting gun guru Massad Ayoob on March 13 and 14 for the ever popular MAS 20 class. Then he will be holding CHP classes, one on March 21 and another on March 22. Brannon also has his two day "Defensive Handgun Won" class scheduled for March 23 and 24 in Covington. It's a great way to build on skills you may have already after taking a CHP or basic home defense course. You can see all of the classes he has at <http://stbisc.mybigcommerce.com/training/>.

*(continued on page 2, column 1)*

### In This Issue

Pg. 1: BATFE Moves to Ban M855 AR Rifle & Pistol Ammo

Pg. 1: LOCAL Member Donates Large Supply of Color Pamphlets

Pg. 2: Gun shows

Pg. 2: LOCAL Handouts at the LSA Meeting

Pg. 2: LOCAL Updates

Pg. 3: Rep. Joe Lopinto Receives Handouts from LOCAL

Pg. 3: LOCAL President Raacke Meets LA Attorney General

Pg. 3: Blake Miguez Learns About LOCAL

Pg. 3: Riley Reports from the Lake Charles Area

Pg. 3: Behind the scenes at the keyboard

Pg. 4: Home Defense Foundation of New Orleans Meeting

Pg. 4: Tidbits of Info you can use

## Gun shows:

- **Chalmette: Mar 7-8**, Frederick Sigur Civic Center, 8245 West Judge Perez Dr., Chalmette, LA, Sat. 9am to 5pm and Sun. 10am to 4pm
- **Kenner Great Southern Gun Show: Mar 14-15**, Pontchartrain Center, 4545 Williams Blvd. Kenner, LA 70065. Sat 9-5 Sun 10-5
- **Gonzales (Baton Rouge area) Classic Arms Gun & Knife Show: Mar 21-22**, Lamar Dixon Expo Hall, 9039 St. Landry Rd. Sat. 9-5, Sun. 10-4
- **Bossier City Gun Show: Mar 28th - 29th**, Bossier Civic Center, 620 Benton Rd, Bossier City, LA 71111, Sat. 9-5, Sun. 9-5

## LOCAL Member Donates Large Supply of Color Pamphlets:

(continued from page 1, column 2)



The range gear shop has everything from holsters and ammo to medical supplies and cleaning equipment. It's a comfortable, family friendly environment and the range is well ventilated so you won't go home choking like you would at so many other ranges. Remember to support those who support us. And thanks again to Brannon for the continued support.

## LOCAL Handouts at the LSA Meeting:

On February 28 the Louisiana Shooting Association (LSA) held its annual meeting and officer elections at Cabela's in Gonzales. LOCAL President Steve Raacke, an LSA member, attended the meeting and used the event as another opportunity to inform fellow gun owners of our organization and our mission. Before members entered the conference room, Steve placed copies of the LOCAL trifold pamphlet and our February Newsletter along with the "What Every Gun Owner Should Know about Self Defense Law" booklet on each table. The handouts were seen by the approximately 50 members who attended the meeting. Some ignored them while many others read through them during the meeting and left with the literature when the meeting ended. At least one LSA member, a CHP instructor, asked for additional copies of the handouts to give to his future CHP students.



(continued in column 2)



## LOCAL Updates:

### March 2015 Meetings

In the **Northwest** area *meetings are by request*. [Contact us](#) if you would like to meet in the Shreveport/Bossier area.

The **Lake Charles** Group will meet at CiCi's Pizza on Ryan St., Lake Charles **Tuesday, Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm**

The **Florida Parishes** area March meeting will be held at the IHOP in Slidell. The IHOP is next to Academy Sports and Outdoors just north of I-12. The meeting is on the third **Saturday, the 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm**.

The **Baton Rouge** area is working the **Gonzales Gun Show** and this will count as this months meeting. **Mar. 21 & 22. SAT. 9 - 5, SUN. 10 - 4** at 9039 St. Landry Rd. Come out and fold some pamphlets with us!

*\*For the most up to date list of meetings dates and times please see our website at <http://laopencarry.org>*

**NOTE:** *When I hear from our area representatives I will post their meeting dates, times and locations to our website.*

**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.

## LOCAL Handouts at the LSA Meeting:

(continued from column 1)



### Rep. Joe Lopinto Receives Handouts from LOCAL President:

Representative Joseph Lopinto (R, District 80) was at the LSA meeting to receive their Legislative Excellence Award for 2015. Rep. Lopinto is Chairman of the Administration of Criminal Justice and has been a strong supporter of gun rights.

LOCAL President Steve Raacke spoke to Rep. Lopinto for a short time, thanking him for the work he does and pledged to assist him in future efforts to protect and expand our gun rights. Rep. Lopinto was familiar with LOCAL from our past visits to the State Capital. President Raacke presented Rep. Lopinto a packet of our handouts including our trifold pamphlet and a copy of our February Newsletter. These items will provide Rep. Lopinto a positive view of our recent activities and hopefully lead to further conversations with members of the LA House and Senate.



### LOCAL President Raacke Meets LA Attorney General Caldwell:

Attorney General Buddy Caldwell was the keynote speaker at the LSA annual meeting on February 28 in Gonzales. He spoke of growing up in rural LA, his pro-gun lifestyle and the politics of his job. After he spoke to the audience, LOCAL President Steve Raacke had a moment to meet with him and ask a couple of questions regarding Open Carry. A.G. Caldwell had one of his staff provide a card with contact information of a member in the A.G. office who could better answer our questions and concerns. LOCAL promised to follow up with his staffer and thanked him for supporting the rights of gun owners.

President Raacke handed A.G. Caldwell a packet of our handouts including a LOCAL trifold pamphlet and a copy of our February Newsletter to better inform him of our organization and our mission to educate the public about the right to bear arms. The A.G. asked for another packet to give to one of his staff and Mr Raacke was glad to provide him with another. Thanks to A.G. Caldwell for taking the time to learn more about LOCAL.



### Attorney, "Top Shots" TV Personality and Representative for District 49, Blake Miguez Learns About LOCAL:

Blake has been on Season 1 of "Top Shots," is a Grand Master USPSA competition shooter and is a corporate lawyer as well as being the CEO of SeaTran Marine. Apparently that wasn't enough to keep Blake Miguez busy so he recently won a special election on Feb 21 and became Louisiana's newest Representative for District 49 covering Iberia and Vermilion Parishes.

Rep. Miguez was at the LSA annual meeting in Gonzales and LOCAL President Steve Raacke spoke with him briefly about guns and other subjects. Of course the conversation got around to LOCAL and open carry and President Raacke made sure that Rep. Miguez had a copy of our handouts including our trifold pamphlet along with our February Newsletter. Congrats to Blake on winning his seat in the LA House of Representatives. Hopefully we will be able to work with Rep. Miguez on future pro-gun legislation.



### Riley Reports from the Lake Charles Area:

I just fired off an e-mail to the Calcasieu Parish Sheriff requesting one of his ranking officers' meet with us during our April meeting. Attendance has been low and I bear a good bit of the blame for that. I am trying to spark more interest in Open Carry & maybe meeting with local law enforcement officers once in a while will boost our numbers. If this works out, I will request a State Trooper next time followed by a City Policemen. Anything to get people more involved! This will also give us a chance to voice our concerns directly to an officer.

### Behind the scenes at the keyboard:

Since becoming Secretary/Treasurer on top of my work as Webmaster and Newsletter Editor I have been quite busy! Where to start? Ok, we moved our official Email service off of Microsoft Hotmail/Live/MS Office on to OUR mail server at laopencarry.org. This was done for security and also to insure WE have control of our data and are no longer living day-to-day at the whim of someone who might not have the same values and goals as we do. The account is still active to catch any mail sent to the old address by people who aren't using the new addresses.

The next order of business was for me to take over our banking which is proving to be a bigger pain in the tookus than I anticipated! PayPal doesn't make it easy either! I wound up creating a new Business account and transferring everything over as it was easier and better in the long run. We are still dealing with getting me access to the bank account but I don't anticipate that being a huge deal when it is all said and done.

*(continued on page 4, column 1)*

## Behind the scenes at the keyboard:

(continued from page 3, column 2)

We also have made changes in our Forum software in order to maintain a smooth upgrade path. Our software was several versions out of date and that made upgrading to the latest, most secure version, well, a bit of a P.I.T.A. My bad. Won't happen again! 

## Home Defense Foundation of New Orleans Meeting:

State Senator Elbert Guillory is expected to be at tomorrow night's meeting of the Home Defense Foundation, 7PM at the Subway Shop at 2500 St. Claude Avenue. Come on down and say hello. Our meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month in the Marigny neighborhood. There is a gigantic parking lot so don't worry about parking. When you come also be sure to ask for your FREE pepper spray.

We will also schedule another free firearm lesson, perhaps on the topic of CARRY FIREARMS, if you are interested in getting a permit to carry.

See you there!

Mike

Our mailing address is:

Fix 1420  
1438 St. Roch Avenue  
New Orleans, La 70117

<http://www.hdfnola.org/> 

## Tidbits of Info you can use:

### The Louisiana Pro-Gun Lawyer List!

The list is on our forums here:

<http://laopencarry.org/forum/viewtopic.php?f=37&t=10#p14>. Please feel free to add to or provide us feedback there!

### Links every Louisiana Gun owner needs!

Louisiana Legislature webpage  
Look up Revised Statutes and other laws  
<http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

Municode  
Database of local municipal codes  
<http://www.municode.com/>

Office of the La Attorney General  
Look up AG opinions  
<http://www.ag.state.la.us/index.aspx>

(continued in column 2)

(continued from column 1)

The Louisiana Shooting Association  
Statewide gun rights and shooting sports advocate  
<http://www.louisianashooting.com/>

The National Rifle Association  
\$10 Discount by joining through us!  
<http://membership.nrahq.org/default.asp?campaignid=XC028347>

LA State Police CHP Unit  
If you decide to concealed carry or have questions  
<http://www.lsp.org/handguns.html>

## Gun related statutes you should be familiar with...

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78739> RS 14:95 - Illegal carrying of weapons

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78335> RS 14:18 - Justification; general provisions

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78336> RS 14:19 - Use of force or violence in defense

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78348> RS 14:21 - Aggressor cannot claim self defense

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78747> RS 14:95.8 - Illegal possession of a handgun by a juvenile

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=285164> RS 14:95.1.1 - Illegally supplying a felon with a firearm

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78740> RS 14:95.1 - Possession of firearm or carrying concealed weapon by a person convicted of certain felonies

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78741> RS 14:95.2 - Carrying a firearm, or dangerous weapon, by a student or non-student on school property, at school-sponsored functions or firearm-free zone

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78744> RS 14:95.5 - Possession of firearm on premises of alcoholic beverage outlet

<http://www.legis.state.la.us/lss/lss.asp?doc=78745> RS 14:95.6 - Firearm-free zone; notice; signs; crime; penalties

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78358> RS 14:22 - Defense of others

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78334> RS 14:17 - Mistake of law

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78333> RS 14:16 - Mistake of fact

<http://legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78703> RS 14:91 - Unlawful sales of weapons to minors

<http://legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=97860> RS 40:1796 - Preemption of state law

<http://www.legis.la.gov/lss/lss.asp?doc=78338> RS 14:20 - Justifiable Homicide

DISCLAIMER: RESEARCH EVERYTHING FOR YOURSELF AND CONSULT AN ATTORNEY 

## Please Join LOCAL Today

Since 2009 LOCAL has been informing the public about the right to Open Carry in Louisiana as well as advocating for more gun rights. We have done this with the generous help of our members and supporters. Their donations allow us to keep our website up. The gun show tables and pamphlets we pass out are paid for from the dues our members send in as well as additional donations. We are a small group but we want to be able to do more. We need members who can help us. If you are reading this newsletter and have not yet joined LOCAL please take a minute to go to: <http://www.laopencarry.org/> and click on the Join/Donate tab on the top line just under the State Flag. You can join online or print out a copy of the membership application and mail it in. Annual LOCAL memberships cost only \$10. Are you an NRA member yet? If not we have a better deal. Click the Join Here button on the NRA box on our webpage and sign up for a 1 year NRA membership for only \$25 and we will throw in a 1 year membership to LOCAL for free. Joining LOCAL won't put you on any unwanted mailing lists. You will only receive monthly newsletter announcements or other important email alerts from us as they become necessary. 



Louisiana Open Carry Awareness League  
P.O. Box 4092  
LaPlace, LA 70069-4092

<http://laopencarry.org>

## Membership Application Form

Mark one option below

\_\_\_\_\_ New Membership- \$10 PER YEAR

\_\_\_\_\_ Renewal - \$10 PER YEAR

\_\_\_\_\_ Update Information for Current Member

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_ CELL: ( ) - \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

LOCAL FORUM MEMBER? YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR SCREEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues can be submitted in person at our monthly club meeting or mailed to the above address.  
Please make your checks or money orders payable to: **LA Open Carry Awareness League**