



# Arizona Citizens Defense League

## Protecting Your Freedom

Volume 2007, Issue 3

Newsletter

September 2007

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P.O. Box 10325  
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<http://www.AzCDL.org>

Available on the web  
(<http://www.AzCDL.org>)

- AzCDL Goals
  - Legislative Updates
  - Arizona Court Cases
  - Online Application
  - Newsletters
  - Important Links
- (and much more)

Need help accessing the web site? Contact AzCDL at (623) 594-8521



### Contacting AzCDL



[info@AzCDL.org](mailto:info@AzCDL.org)



(623) 594-8521

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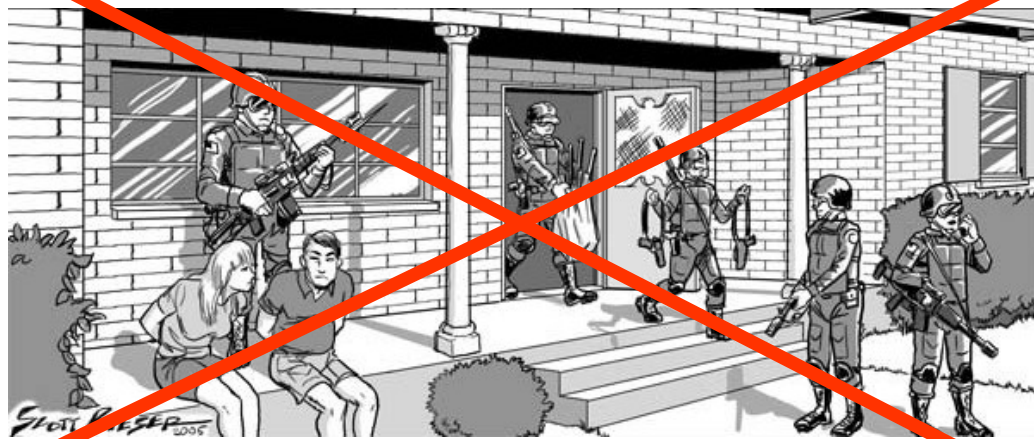
## New Laws Effective September 19, 2007

The following are pro-rights bills that will become law this year. With the exception of SB 1250, the general effective date for legislation is September 19, 2007.

**SB 1250**—Removes the requirement to obtain fingerprints upon the first renewal of a CCW permit. Last year a bill passed that eliminated the fingerprint requirement after the second renewal. DPS interpreted this to mean that the second time you renew your permit after August 2005, you don't need fingerprints—or roughly in the year 2015. SB 1250 removes all that silliness, and eliminates the fingerprint requirement for permit renewals altogether. After December 31, 2007, when you renew your concealed weapons permit, you will no longer be required to submit a set of fingerprints. For procedures on renewing without submitting fingerprints, check with the DPS CCW Unit.



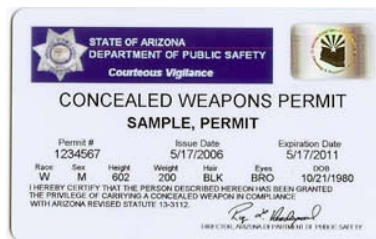
**SB 1258**—Prohibits the Governor, or Adjutant General, from confiscating lawfully held firearms during a state of emergency.



**HB 2116**—Allows people to let their grandchildren use their big game permits and tags to take big game under certain limited circumstances.

**HB 2117**—Allows people to let physically disabled minor children use their big game permits and tags to take big game under certain limited circumstances.

**HB 2469**—Reduces the penalty for not carrying your CCW permit with you to a petty offense (from the current Class 2 Misdemeanor). It also restricts the application of the law to concealed weapons permit holders, and clarifies that a permit holder can only be charged if they are carrying a concealed weapon when they fail to present their permit at the request of a law enforcement officer. If you produce a legible permit that was valid at the time of the violation, when you go to court you "shall not be convicted."





## Independence Day Rifle Match



The second annual AzCDL Independence Day Action Rifle Match is in the bag. Held on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at the Rio Salado Sportman's Club, the match is a way to have some good fun on a hot day, and remind us that July 4<sup>th</sup> isn't just about hot dogs and furniture sales...but a way to reconnect with our nation's founding.



Organized once again by Russell Phagan from Cavalry Arms, this rifle-only event brought 46 shooters together for the event, one

less than the 2006 event. This year, however, there were many prizes donated by a variety of companies to reward the best...and the worst...shooters. Companies donating prizes to the event include Cavalry Arms (match organizer), Tactics LLC, 3-Gun Gear, VLTOR, Eagle Industries, LMS defense, Hayes Research, Coyote Tactical, and Practical Tactical, LLC (full disclosure: my company). My SINCEREST apologies if I left anyone out.

The day started with the usual fee collecting and administrative stuff. Squads were formed and after the Pledge of Allegiance, the match was underway.

Again, the format was 2 close stages and 2 long-range stages. Trying to describe the stages without pictures and diagrams will be tough, but the long-range stages were from 100 yards (closest targets) to just under 300 yards. One of the long-range stages had a couple of close-range/CQB targets to shoot as you moved from the first to the second shooting position. Attention to detail is key...don't be THAT GUY who doesn't engage the CQB targets because you weren't paying attention to the stage description.



As with last year, the AR-15 and variants made up most of the field of weapons. However, for this year, there was a large

contingent of shooter's using the Rifle, M-1, Garand...the mainstay of our WWII efforts...in the "classic" division. It was great fun to see this classic rifle in action. And, if the shooter did his/her part, so did the Garand.

Other rifles used were FN-FAL and M1A variants (in 7.62x51mm caliber), a couple of AK-47 variants, and a gentleman using a full-auto Thompson M-1 submachine gun in .45 ACP. That was a real kick to hear being shot on the other range...unfortunately he was in a different squad than I was.

Top shooter was, for the second year in a row, Mr. Kelly Neal shooting in Tactical Scope division. This writer improved significantly from last year, when a serious weapon malfunction dropped me to nearly last place. In 2007, I placed 21 out of 47 overall and 13/26 in my division. There were four women shooters and several newcomers.

Now...for the important info. In the end, this event is a fund-raiser for AzCDL. The match cleared over \$1,500 dollars, a thirty-seven percent increase from 2006. It would have been a bit higher, but AzCDL catered a BBQ lunch for all the participants as a "Thank you" for coming. The AzCDL president bought all the sodas and water out of his own pocket. The lunch was a very welcome gesture and much appreciated by the participants. However, as an AzCDL member myself, as well as match shooter and sponsor, it's my personal opinion that the money would be better served by going back to AzCDL rather than feeding me. I do appreciate it, don't get me wrong, but drinks would have been plenty. Enough of that.

Links to sponsors web pages are listed below, as are links to a picture gallery of this year's event and a "YouTube" video of a portion of the event. Hope it's enough to get you wanting to come to the 2008 match!!

In closing, let me extend an invitation to you readers to come to next year's match. It really doesn't matter if you've never shot a match before, or if you don't think you're that great a shot. The match is more friendly in nature, though there is some tough competition on the

range. I go to get some shooting in, to remember our Founding Fathers, and for fellowship with like-minded shooters on a very hot day.



We hope you can do so in 2008. See you then!

Cavalry Arms  
<http://www.cavalryarms.com>

3 Gun Gear  
<http://www.3gungear.com>

Coyote Tactical  
<http://www.coyotetactical.com>

Hayes Research  
<http://www.hayesresearch.com/>

Practical Tactical  
<http://www.practicaltactical.net>

Tactics, LLC  
<http://www.tacticsllc.com/>

LMS Defense  
<http://www.lmsdefense.com>

Eagle Industries  
<http://www.eagleindustries.com>

Vltor  
<http://www.vltor.com>

Event Gallery:  
<http://www.cavalryarms.com/CS.html>

YouTube video of part of the match:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6jri53smP70>

Tim Weaver  
Practical Tactical, LLC  
Glendale, AZ  
[www.practicaltactical.net](http://www.practicaltactical.net)  
602-402-7385





## Annual Members Meeting



The 2007 Annual Meeting was held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Phoenix. The hotel staff did an admirable job with the preparations for the event, which included a good meal and prompt service, and are to be commended for their positive attitude. They did not balk when we insisted on a contract rider that attendees be allowed to carry firearms openly, unlike other venues we'd contacted that shall remain nameless, and they will certainly stay at the top of the list for future locations.

The meeting kicked off with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and an Invocation, led by Life Member Bennett Kopp and Sustaining Member Robert Haney respectively. We then held a brief but very moving ceremony in remembrance of our nation's prisoners of war and missing in action, many thousands of which are still unaccounted for. This was both suggested and led by Life Member and veteran Elbert "Bick" Bicknell, and with his assistance, will continue to be a feature of future annual meetings. I then made a mercifully brief address on the current state of political affairs in Arizona, and we sat down to a nice lunch.

After the meal (and the excellent cheesecake), entertainment was provided by the ever popular Cartridge Family Band. I then gave a status report on what we accomplished in the last legislative session, and where we expect to go with future legislation. Charles Heller, our Secretary, gave a combined Secretary and Treasurer's report, standing in for Fred Dahnke, our Treasurer. Our organization is in good

financial health, and has seen a growth in membership of approximately 300% since the last annual meeting.



John Wentling, our Vice President and Authorized Lobbyist, recognized the contributions of our membership, especially our Life Members. He then presented our inaugural Lifetime Achievement award, commissioned to recognize the public servant who we feel has contributed a great deal towards our goal of protecting freedom. This year's award was presented to Sen. Karen Johnson (R-18), who has been a leader in the fight to preserve our right to keep and bear arms throughout her ten year career in the Arizona state legislature. Unfortunately, Sen. Johnson was unable to join us due to family commitments, so Senate staffer Javen Mesnard accepted the award on her behalf.

Following the award presentation, we began discussion of organizational business. Life Members Shawn Nealon and Russell Phagan of Cavalry Arms gave a brief talk about this year's Independence Day Action Rifle Match, which they host each year to benefit our organization. There was discussion of a regional structure and potential re-

gional meetings, an issue that has been raised in the past.

There was also some discussion about forming a Political Action Committee (PAC), an issue of some importance to a group such as ours. The biggest hurdle we face at this point is finding qualified officers to staff a PAC, especially in the Treasurer's position. Legal and ethical requirements are such that AzCDL's existing staff may not also staff the PAC. If anyone is interested in staffing the PAC, or in forming a regional branch of AzCDL, please contact us at [info@azcdl.org](mailto:info@azcdl.org) and we'll discuss it further.

Noted author, activist, and member Alan Korwin gave a brief speech about the importance of being involved, and using terms and language properly when dealing with others, particularly legislators. When we use terms like "Assault weapon", terms invented by our enemies, we are, often unconsciously, giving up ground that we don't need to give up. See Alan's web site (<http://www.gunlaws.com/politicallycorrect.htm>) for a "Politically Corrected Glossary" that highlights his point.



The meeting ended with the 50/50 drawing, won by new member Linda Brooks. Judging from comments heard afterward, a good time was had by all. We are looking forward to next year.

Dave Kopp,  
President

## Nominate an AzCDL Director for the NRA Board

AzCDL Board member, J.D. "Duke" Schechter, needs your support to be nominated to the NRA Board of directors as a write-in candidate.

NRA voting members—here is your chance to make a difference. Legislation that the NRA may choose to support or oppose, depends on the representation you receive as a voting member.

In an upcoming issue of the NRA magazine you receive there will be a nomination form to send back to the NRA.

Duke is a USMC Veteran of combat in Viet Nam and member of MENSA. He has spoken to national and international audiences on the Bill of Rights and has been quoted in the Arizona Republic in the same article as former NRA President, Sandy Froman. More to the point,

he is an eloquent, convincing speaker on the practical consequences of civilian disarmament and the nanny-state.

You can learn more about Duke online: <http://yesiamthatsmart.blogspot.com/> or drop him at note at [americanicon@peoplepc.com](mailto:americanicon@peoplepc.com)

Please take the time to nominate Duke as an NRA Board member.



Arizona Citizens Defense League  
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## The Arizona Citizens Defense League

AzCDL was founded by a group of local activists who recognized that a sustained, coordinated, statewide effort was critical to protecting and expanding the rights of law-abiding gun owners. AzCDL has been instrumental in the successful passage of the first major improvements to Arizona's CCW (concealed carry) laws since they were instituted in 1994, and has been at the forefront of the fight to restore justice to our self-defense laws.

AzCDL is a non-profit, all volunteer, non-partisan grassroots organization dedicated to the principles contained in Article II, Section 2 of the Arizona Constitution that:

*"All political power is inherent in the people, and the governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed, and are established to protect and maintain individual rights."*

AzCDL believes that the rights of self-defense and bearing arms are the

foundation for all other rights. Our freedom of speech, our freedom from unreasonable searches, our right against self-incrimination, our right to bear arms, all of our fundamental rights only exist because we stand firmly resolved to preserve them. The AzCDL exists to strengthen that resolve.

AzCDL believes that the emphasis of gun laws should be on criminal misuse and that law-abiding citizens should be able to own and carry firearms unaffected by unnecessary laws or regulations. Towards that end, we are pursuing the following legislative improvements:

- ✓ "Constitutional Carry" – The right of law-abiding citizens to carry a firearm openly or concealed.
- ✓ Continued strengthening and preservation of the right of presumed innocence in self-defense situations.
- ✓ Stronger State Preemption –

Firearms laws should be consistent throughout the State.

- ✓ Fewer restrictions on the lawful carrying of firearms on Public property (buildings, parks, etc.).
- ✓ Explicit 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Storage Requirements when entering a posted "No Guns" facility.
- ✓ Liability responsibility for property owners who ban firearms.
- ✓ Improvements to CCW laws.
- ✓ "Restaurant Carry" – The ability of law-abiding citizens to dine out while carrying a firearm.

Our volunteer lobbyists are at the capitol regularly, fighting for your rights!

Join or Renew today!

