

It is a good day for Liberty.

Good news and bad news. The Democrats take control of the house and Nancy Pelosi gives a cloying speech about our forefathers and life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Her definition of these terms is what I am afraid of. Republicans increase their margin in the Senate. This improves chances for confirming judges. I fear that we will see two years of gridlock with unending investigations and threats of impeachment. Congress will get nothing done, so it will not create more trouble. However it will not institute the reform we have been expecting for the last two years.

At the federal level a number of B+ and A rated congresspersons have been replaced with F rated congresspersons. One source says this has been a change of 15 seats. This complicates our lives and our grandchildren's future.

In Missouri we lost a few seats, but they have also been replaced with F rated legislators. This does not change our majority, but there is worse on the horizon. The "Clean Missouri Act" was voted in by referendum. It was presented as ethics reform however that was a mask for a system of redistricting legislative seats. This will have the effect of reducing the number of rural legislative districts. We have depended on the rural districts to maintain our rights. This will not happen until after 2020, but that is still too soon. To survive we must gain a network of supporters, members and allies.

Tabitha Birdsong was found dead of "grievous head injuries." In her pocket detectives found a protective order. The person named in the order has been arrested and other evidence against him has been found. This indicates once again that these orders are mere bits of paper. I do not say that they are worthless. However they are no practical defense. I have received death threats in the course of my work; small dogs bark the loudest. One defendant did not like my cross-examination and threatened to kill me. Of all the threats I have received I thought he was competent enough to carry out the threat. I took out a restraining order. If he went ahead and killed me he would be in contempt of court and in real trouble. Better, if I had to kill him I had evidence that I had tried to work within the law.

A columnist for the local tabloid claims that Ms. Birdsong could not have defended herself with a gun because of her disability. The lady had seizures. We are constantly told that disabled people can do anything, except own a gun. If the lady had a seizure while driving a car the car would spin off to unpredictable directions to unpredictable effect. If she had a seizure while carrying a gun, the gun would remain on her hip to no effect. If she had the gun in her hand with her finger on the trigger, she would either be on the range or pointing at an attacker. If she did fire the bullet's path would be predictable. People who know nothing of guns assure us that if she had a gun she would have died earlier. The usual suspects cannot conceive of a successfully using a gun in self-defense. In their superstitions such an effort always ends in disaster.

Protective orders can only be taken out against current or former family members, persons who have resided in the same home, persons with children in common or stalkers. The county court Circuit Clerk provides forms for such requests and no filing fee is required. They are routinely granted sometimes on trivial evidence. A woman took one out against her fiancée, a police officer. She had tried to commit suicide and he twisted the gun out of her hand. That was the assault. The judge granted the order. Such absurd results encourage clogging the courts with frivolous motions. These motions must be vigorously, and expensively, resisted and they provide a permanent record that the subject is abusive. They deprive the subject of the right to have firearms for the duration of the order. The order can be easily renewed over and over again. This sort of procedure is advocated under "red flag" laws to deprive people of guns on someone's notion that the subject is "dangerous." If there is evidence that a person is dangerous it is possible to file a probate action to that effect. However this involves due process of law which is an impediment for the usual suspects.

It is possible to file a restraining order, as I did, against a non-family or non-intimate partner. This is a bit more complicated and usually requires an attorney.

The (male) suspect in a Clay County murder case mooned the (female) detective who tried to question him. I don't know what the suspect thought he was accomplishing but he did get an additional charge for public indecency. In a Jackson County case a detective asked a suspect a question and the suspect let loose a pungent fart. He continued to fart and the detective concluded the interview. Doubtless the suspect thought that he was being clever, but he became

known as the “Farting Felon.” It is not good to stand out in this way. Communication, and these acts were communication, should be brief, polite, and consist of “I want a lawyer.”

The Thousand Oaks bar shooting has prompted the usual incompetents to pontificate on guns and self-defense. One pointed out that a deputy charged into danger and was killed. He facetiously stated that the NRA had told us that all was needed with a good guy with a gun. Of course, a number of other law enforcement officers charged in and the killer committed suicide. So there was a good guy who resolved the matter. Another self-appointed expert likened self-defense against a mass killer to a driveway basketball player going up against an NBA team. This assumes that mass killers are the equivalent of an NBA team. They are not. They plan their massacres but do not know how to react to opposition. Even ineffectual opposition throws them off and they commit suicide. It is not necessary to be a SWAT trained ninja assassin to fight thugs and psychotics. People who have never held a gun before have defended their homes. A lady in Oklahoma faced drug addicts who attempted to break in to steal her late husband’s pain medication. She nursed her baby, called 911 and handled a pump shotgun all at the same time. She killed one invader and ran off the other. She did not even know how to pump another shell into the chamber; yet she was successful.

A man was sitting in his doctor’s waiting room and improved the time by reading a gun magazine. A woman entered, gave him the evil eye and animatedly spoke to the receptionist. The receptionist asked if he would mind putting away the magazine because it disturbed the woman. He said that he would mind and it disturbed him to be asked. The woman moved through the room telling the other patients how dangerous the man was. Eventually the receptionist told him that he would have to abandon the magazine or leave. He complied. The woman called him “baby killer.” He did not respond with “book burner” or anything else appropriate. Such response does not influence the usual suspects. The objective is to seem to be the reasonable person to others.

I saw a DVD “Train to Pusan.” It is a Korean film well-dubbed into English. It recounts a man taking his daughter to Pusan on the southern tip of the county. But, and there must always be a “but,” there is a zombie on the train. If we have learned anything in the last fifty years it is that if there is one zombie there will soon be more. This is Korea and it is difficult for a mere person to own a gun. The passengers fight back as best they can, a baseball team is on the train and the baseball bat is a classic club. A Karate team is not as useful. It is interesting that the passengers do not try to loot weapons from overrun military and police posts. It should also be noted that there are few survivors; unless of course you are on the zombie’s side. In that case things go well.

We shall overcome.