



What WE Do

By Mike " Tallbear" Thiede

Michigan Gun Owners was established in 2002 with the mission to educate the public and encourage grass roots activism on a state-wide level through various outreach programs and a popular community forum on the internet. Michigan Gun Owners has become Michigan's fastest growing, grass roots gun rights advocacy organization.

Owning a gun is a serious responsibility. Using guns safely and keeping them out of the hands of individuals who should not have access to them are the two main priorities of Michigan Gun Owner. If you handle guns safely and responsibly and then project that onto the people around you, they will do the same. Make sure that if you let someone handle or use your guns, they use them in a safe and responsible manner. If that is in doubt, then you should not let that person use or handle your guns.

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MGO 5 and 10 Year Plan

By John 'Johnzilla' Turner

As discussed in the August meeting, MGO's Executive Committee is working on 5-yr and 10-yr strategic plans for the organization. Member suggestions for what these plans should contain are welcome.

This thread could have been posted in the "Contributing Members Only" section. It was not, because all opinions are welcome. However, please keep all discussion respectful and civil and remember this website's Acceptable Use Policy. Any attack (personal or otherwise) posted for the sole purpose of intimidation and/or abuse will be diligently reported and (hopefully) deleted.

This is not about attacking one another, it is about constructive suggestions and discussion.

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"If you build it, they will come. Before you build it, there must be a design...a plan."

PhotoTom

What WE Do- Continued

By Mike "Tallbear" Thiede

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Get Trained!

If you are going to own a gun, for whatever reason, you should take a class from a certified instructor on how to safely operate and shoot the gun. There are a lot of schools and independent instructors out there who can train you; and in most cases for not a lot of money. Getting professionally trained is worth it.

Children and what to teach them about Guns

Every parent, whether you have guns in your home or not, will have a different opinion on when they feel is the best time to teach their children about guns and how much to teach them. Below is some advice that we hope will help everyone on this issue.

Young Children

Young Children are curious and will certainly pick up a gun as if it was a toy because they don't know any better. They should to be taught what guns look like, that they are dangerous, and that they should not be touched. If they find one, they should be taught to not touch it and to come and tell you immediately. They should be taught the difference between toy guns and real guns and the differences between movies and TV as compared to real life.

Adolescents

When children get older and are able to play independently outside of your watchful eye, they should be taught not to be around or accept a gun from anyone without your consent. If one is offered or shown to them they should come home immediately and tell you or tell the closest adult or Policeman. Only if you hand them a gun or with your

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MGO members supporting the 2008 B4K benefit dinner.

The Michigan Gun Owners News Letter Committee would like to personally thank Kumma for the time and work he spent volunteering to design a logo for the newsletter.

This may not be the final version of the newsletter logo but it sure does help.

If you need a logo or any other design work done, we're sure he can help you. If you have any questions you can contact him via PM.

*Thanks Again
News Letter Committee*

"Owning a gun is a serious responsibility. Using guns safely and keeping them out of the hands of individuals who should not have access to them are the two main priorities of Michigan Gun Owner."

Mike "Tallbear" Thiede

MGO needs your help designing a new logo

By Joe 'Joeywhat' Tyler

Folks, the marketing and advertising committee needs your help! We are trying to revamp the merchandise and we are looking at a different logo to start throwing on some things. Don't worry, the good 'ole MGO logo we know and love isn't going anywhere, we're just getting some other stuff out there as well.

So if you're a graphic designer, 'arteest' or just know how to color inside the lines then help us out! We're looking for a logo with the 'MGO' letters in it. Nothing fancy...here are some guidelines:

-Can't say 'gun' or have a picture of a gun in it...parts like a barrel/rifling or other similar parts OK...just don't want it readily identifiable as a gun

-Preferably simple...lots of colors or high detail often times means greater cost to reproduce..but we'll accept all ideas and designs to review

-Easily transferrable between different apparel. This will be going on hats, hoodies, t-shirts, etc.

-be creative! Right now we're looking at everything, so really let loose. A real wacky design might have certain features we really like, so don't hold back.

Interested in putting your own twist on the MGO logo?

Click here for more:

<http://www.migunowners.org/forum/showthread.php?t=59798&highlight=logo>

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Please note that 5-yr and 10-yr plans are strategic, not policy. Thus, suggestions like "everyone on the forum should be able to have an avatar" would not be included in a 5-yr or 10-yr plan. Also, suggestions should be measurable. If you say "grow the membership" it should instead be "grow the membership by X amount".

This is the membership's opportunity to provide direct input into the long term plans of MGO. Please take advantage of it.

Editor: Here are some examples and suggestions that have been submitted by members.

5 year - increase amount of member benefits for contributing members.

5 year - increase volunteer turnout (both members and not) at MGO sponsored events.

I would like to see MGO help new CPL holders learn the importance of getting additional training after their initial required course.

I would like to see MGO offer training "seminars" to the CPL holding public coming due for their renewals. This could be an excellent place to recap the law changes AND encourage new folks to come-aboard and join MGO.

Have a suggestion? Log on and let everyone know.

<http://www.migunowners.org/forum/showthread.php?t=60322>



Got an idea to refresh MGO's logo?

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John "Johnzilla" Turner

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approval should they touch one.

How to use a gun

At what age should you teach your children how to use a gun? That is a question only you as their parent can answer. You might start by remembering what age you learned to shoot; but the best advice we can give you is to ask yourself these questions. Do they understand what a gun is and what is it used for? Do they understand the difference

between a real gun and a toy gun? Can they hold the gun up and shoot it safely? Do they understand the safety rules? If you can answer yes to these questions they are probably ready.

Keep in mind that children learn from watching their parents. So if you handle guns safely and take it seriously, they will too.

Posting Etiquette - Reminder of Acceptable Use Policy

At the direction of the EC, and in an effort to "clean-up" the face/image of MGO (these forums), it is once again necessary to revisit/review the MGO Forums Acceptable Use Policy (AUP):
<http://www.migunowners.org/forum/showthread.php?t=11300>

There has been noted rise in abuse of the following stipulations:

You agree not to post any:

- **Abusive Material**
- **Obscene Material**
- **Vulgar Material**
- **Slanderous Material**
- **Hateful Material**
- **Threatening Material**
- **Sexually-Oriented Material**
- **Material That May Violate Any Applicable Laws**

MGO's forums were founded in the spirit of "uncensored" dialog. The intent behind this founding principle was to allow members to MGO's forums were founded in the spirit of "uncensored" dialog. The intent behind this founding principle was to allow members to speak freely, make their points, post questions, debate issues, etc., without worry of being shut-down, censored, banned, etc., including when those questions/debates/etc may be directed toward or perceived as sensitive to the "officials" of MGO.

However, that certainly doesn't mean that in the process, one must be crude, rude, vulgar, abusive/hateful, etc. It **IS** possible to make a point, participate in a debate, etc without violating the AUP. The greater majority of MGO's forum members manage to do so without issue. Holding all members to the terms of the AUP should NOT be perceived as censorship.

It is the desire of the EC to have MGO's forums be a place that you would freely refer coworkers, church members, business executives (potential advertisers), family members (including women and children), etc., without concern of embarrassment due to crude subject matter, language, conduct, etc.

We ask that everyone keep this in mind when posting on MGO's forums.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.
 - Admin

If you have any questing regarding the AUP please contact PhotoTom.

Latest News From SAFR-PAC

By Barbara "Barbara" Stockford - SAFR

This week, Legislators are working budget issues, and the Mackinaw Conference has also been a big focus for the Republican side of the aisle. Shooters Alliance for Firearms Rights (SAFR) biggest goals this year are to remove some or all of the areas that are restricted for concealed carry, work on giving CPL Holders additional options, including Tasers, and fixing the Gap Protection for renewals.

Even bigger than those things are our PACs efforts to make sure that we get good people into office in the first place. Each election cycle, our PAC surveys all candidates for statewide elections, and for many local elections as well. These surveys ask candidates both general and specific questions on gun rights. The results are then evaluated by our team and a score is given. Then each candidates voting record, and public statements are researched, and a non-partisan voting guide for gun owners is developed. 2008's Voter Guide can be found at www.safrpac.org. A lot of time and energy goes into these surveys and the result is an in-depth resource that no other state that I'm aware of has available to them.

We have also done in-depth analysis of the past election, to determine what seats are most critical and which ones can be influenced by gun owners. This information will be used to assign resources this election.

Over the coming year, expect a number of gun rights bills to be introduced, although many of them will "die on the vine." Each legislator can introduce a particular number of bills each month and this is often done to appease various special interest groups, including gun owners. Especially valuable, though, are those legislators who consistently work to push legislation through the committee process. Make sure you support these people. If a legislator earns a SAFR PAC endorsement, it means they've done the work...support them with your time and money.



Michigan Gun Owners

P.O. Box 153

Dearborn Heights, MI, 48127

Phone: 877-ASK-MGO1

E-mail: info@migunowners.org