



THE HAWAII RIFLEMAN



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Great Guns Gun Show

Presented by
Hawaii Historic Arms Association
82nd Semi-Annual Show

March 17th
10AM - 6PM

March 18th
10AM - 5PM

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A 300 Table Gun Show
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Continued on page 5

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Hawaii Rifle Association
PO Box 543
Kailua, HI 96734
(808) 396-5433

www.hawaiirifleassociation.org

President's Message March 2018



By Harvey Gerwig

Wow, have you been watching the political goings on at the Legislature this session? If not, you're in for a shock.

Our Legislature is considering a host of bad, anti-gun, anti-Second Amendment bills that are designed to strip you of your rights and quite possibly make you a felon with no firearm rights for doing something as simple as replacing a trigger in your semi-auto hunting rifle. In this month's article, I will discuss some of the worst bills and then highlight some of the best.

It is imperative that you stay up to speed with the gun bills this year and submit testimony to support or oppose as necessary. If you are on the alert list, you will be receiving notices of critical hearings for you to submit testimony. If you are not on the alert list, please send me an email requesting that you be added to the list. The hearing notices only come out 48 hours before the hearing, so there is little time to respond. The simple way to submit testimony is to go to

www.capitol.hawaii.gov, create an account, type in the bill number, click on "submit testimony" and then click either support or oppose, depending on the bill's intention. You can write testimony if you wish, but that is not necessary. Please use your full, real name when signing up to testify.

SOME OF THE WORST BILLS:

SB2046: This bill seeks to outlaw BUMPSTOCKS. These are commercially available accessories for semi-auto rifles that would potentially allow the rifle to fire faster than the stock unmodified rifle. This type of regulation belongs with the ATF, NOT the Hawaii Legislature. Let's let the ATF do their job on a Federal level. The second item of interest in SB2046 is a ban on crank triggers, which operate within the trigger guard of a semi-auto firearm to potentially accelerate the rate of fire. They are cumbersome, backward devices that few of us own or use, but the restriction, if any, should be left to the ATF.

Continued on page 3

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Citizens'
Rights

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Support HCR PAC. Wage political warfare against those who want to take away our guns.

Make a donation now. Please give as much as you can. Mahalo, Kerry, Chair.

*Required by Hawaii Elections Committee

President's Message

Continued from page 2

NOW here's the rub with this bill--it is poorly written in a broad, all encompassing manner that restricts any alteration to a semi-auto rifle that MIGHT increase the rate of fire. So, if you put a new trigger in your hunting rifle or target rifle and some official thinks that might have increased the rate of fire by some unknown, unstipulated percentage, you could be charged with a felony, and if convicted, spend five years in prison. **THIS BILL MUST BE DEFEATED.**

SIMILAR BILLS: SB2406, HB1908

HB2024: GUN VIOLENCE PROTECTION ORDERS. This bill would allow for immediate confiscation of a person's firearms without benefit of due process. Fortunately this bill has been deferred and hopefully will remain so forever.

SB2436: SHORTENS TIME FOR VOLUNTARY SURRENDER FROM THIRTY (30) DAYS TO TWENTY-FOUR HRS. This bill makes it virtually impossible for an affected person with a gun collection to comply with the order. This bill has already passed through one committee in the Senate and is headed for the second this week. *We strongly oppose this measure.*

There is some good news in the Legislature this year and here it is:

SB1970: APPRENTICE HUNTING: This bill allows APPRENTICE hunters to hunt with a licensed Mentor so they can try out hunting to see if they like it, and if they do, they can progress on to take the full Hunter Education Class and get their own Hunting License. Great bill and it has passed the first reading.

RANGE LAND ALLOCATION ON THE BIG ISLAND: DLNR is seriously looking at two different parcels of land to designate as a public RANGE. Great news for the Big Island shooters.

Please review the legislative summary in this newsletter to see the other bills that are in play.

Aloha,

Harvey Gerwig

President, HRA

**HELP US DEFEND
OUR SECOND AMENDMENT**

DONATE NOW!

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The Hawaii Rifleman

Founded 1857 • HRA The State Affiliate of the
National Rifle Association

The unofficial Journal of the following
Affiliated Clubs:

- Lessons In Firearms Education (LIFE)
- Mid-Pacific Pistol League
- Koko Head Skeet Club
- Valley Isle Sport Shooters
- Kauai Eco Sporting Clays
- Chinese Gun Club of Hawaii

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Summary of Bills in the 2018 Legislature

(as of March 8, 2018)

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES: First crossover for all bills is Thursday, March 8, 2018. Any bill not passed by the assigned committees is dead for the year. Please write to your Representative and Senator and let them know how you would like them to vote on these bills.

1. HB 1908: BUMP STOCKS We are opposed to this “BAN” bill, but submitted language to alter the bill to take out the onerous provisions that would make a person a felon for altering the trigger on a semi-auto firearm. **(MOVED ON)**

2. SB 2046: BUMP STOCKS This is a companion bill to HB 1908. Due to intense testimony, they have altered the bill to resemble the language we submitted on HB 1908. It is also a “BAN” bill, but the most onerous language has been changed. It still needs more changes, so we will be requesting that the Senate Bill be altered to mirror the language in HB 1908. **(MOVED ON)**

3. HB 2076: APPRENTICE HUNTING This bill passed the Water and Land (WAL) committee, thanks to Representative Ryan Yamane, BUT did not advance to the second committee so will not be considered in this session. Most states have this law in place and it works well, so why is Hawaii different and can't get this law passed? **WE STRONGLY SUPPORT THIS BILL. (KILLED)**

4. SB 2436: SHORTEN TIME FOR SURRENDER OF FIREARMS This was originally proposed to be 24 hours, after lots of testimony by HRA, NRA, and the shooting public it has been amended to be 7 days. We

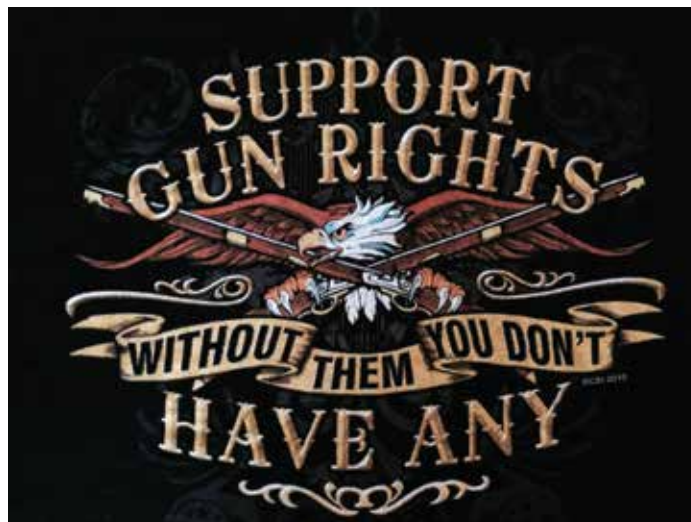
still stand on our testimony that 30 days is reasonable. We find no substantial evidence that gun crimes are committed during the surrender period at 30 days. (Same as HB 2228) **(MOVED ON)**

5. HB 2024: GUN VIOLENCE PROTECTION ORDERS This bill was deferred by the House JUD committee. We can be very glad because this was a very bad bill. **WE STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL. (DEAD)**

6. NATIONAL CCW RECIPROCITY BILL: This bill sailed through the Federal House of Reps, but is somewhat stuck in the Federal Senate right now. **(ALIVE)**

7. STATE OF HAWAII LEGSLATIVE RESOLUTIONS: There are Hawaii Senate and House resolutions that were heard on March 8, 2018 that asked our Hawaii Senators and Reps in Congress to **OPPOSE** the National CCW Reciprocity Bill so our rights can be further oppressed by our Legislature in Hawaii. **WE STRONGLY OPPOSE THIS BILL.**

8. MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND GUNS: The Legislature killed the bill that would have cleared up the confusion surrounding Medical Marijuana Card Holders and firearms possession. Dr. Clifton Otto authored a very well written bill to address this issue, but when it passed through the House Health Committee, it was **GUTTED**, and turned into a Study Group Bill. Another Study Group is exactly what Hawaii does not need. We need positive action to protect our citizens' rights. **WE SUPPORT THIS BILL. (DEAD)**



Hawaii Historic Arms Association

GREAT GUNS

2018

A 300 TABLE GUN SHOW

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MAR. 17TH
10 AM - 6 PM

MAR. 18TH
10 AM - 5 PM

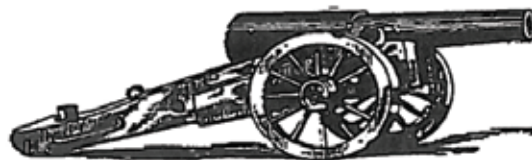
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By Laughlin Tanaka

20 ga. Tournament

March 4, 2018

Greetings Shooters:

Our first skeet tournament of the year was this past Sunday, hosted by none other than our KHSC president Earle Char at the Koko Head Shooting Complex. Twenty gauge was the event and had us dusting off the cobwebs from our shotguns and getting back into tournament mode. We have been having some issues with our skeet machines at the range so practice during the latter part of last year and early part of this year was interrupted by machine failures. But, all machines are up and running smoothly, so let the shooting begin.

Earle greeted 13 shooters who shot the 20 gauge event. Work schedules and timing prevented some of our regulars from participating, but hopefully the next tournament will bring more people. At about 8:30 am, we were off and running with the first squad starting to dust targets in a surprisingly calm morning. It was a little chilly as it has been these past months and rain was not in our forecast, but weather can be unpredictable here in Hawaii. The light winds offered no excuses for missing fairly nice targets...but every now and again, an extra squirrely target would appear, I am sure with the help of some of the Koko Head menehunes, to give challenge and keep the shooters on their toes. Tournaments always bring a certain tenseness to the table and you have to manage your composure to put up your best scores for the day. With 13 shooters, we put out 3 squads of shooters--each shooting 50 targets on the right field and then switching over to the left field to complete 100 targets.

Shooting was completed about 11:30 am when the last squad turned in their scores. Top shooters of the day were Denny Sadowski (Class A) and Tai Chong (Class B), both with a score of 96 and were the winners of their class. Good job guys—both showed consistency and poise. Other class winners were yours truly, Laughlin Tanaka (Class D) who won in a shoot off with Alden Almeida with score of 91 and Class E winner, Shane Nakata with a 90. Congratulations to all the class winners! Other shooters with great performances that day were John Smith (Class A) and Paul Seo (Class B) with 93's to round off a good shooting day. Please take a look at the shooting scoreboard for the shooting results by class.



Denny Sadowski Class A Winner, 20 ga.



Tai Chong Class B Winner, 20 ga.



Laughlin Tanaka Class D Winner, 20 ga.



Shane Nakata Class E Winner, 20 ga.

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KHSC

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Score Board**20 ga. Tournament**

<u>Class</u>	<u>Name</u>		<u>Score</u>				<u>Total</u>	
AA	Denny Sadowski	24	24	23	25	96	Class	
	John Smith	22	21	25	25	93		
	Kelly Ogawa	22	22	23	19	86		
B	Paul Seo	23	23	23	24	93	Class	
	Tai Chong	25	24	24	23	96		
D	Alden Almeida	24	20	23	24	91	Class	
	Laughlin Tanaka	23	22	23	23	91		
	Cory Chock	22	21	19	19	81		
E	Shane Nakata	22	24	22	22	90	Class	
	Tommy Kushima	20	20	21	19	80		
	Randy Suzuki	19	22	20	19	80		
	Mitch Low	15	15	21	14	65		
N/C	Jonathan Smith	23	21	20	23	87		

We also would like to welcome first time tournament shooter Jonathan Smith, son of John Smith who has been coaching him. He shot a respectable 87 for his first outing. Looking at his score board, with two 23's in there for his first tourney, I think we are looking at some new young blood to give us older shooters some pause. Go get 'em Jonathan!

The after tournament camaraderie is always welcome. We had the usual hot dogs and pork sausage, and then all the kidding about how and why we missed those almost perfect targets and how some magical ugly targets graced our day. All in good fun and the class winners took home some \$\$--always a nice way to end your day.

Well shooters, till the next tournament as Earle always says, "head on the gun, eye on the target and bust'em."



Two for the Road (Alden and Koren).

25th ANNUAL SHOOTING SPORTS FAIR

COME SHOOT OUR GUNS AND AMMO!!

SATURDAY, JUNE 16
SUNDAY, JUNE 17

10:00am – 4:00pm
10:00am – 4:00pm

KOKO HEAD SHOOTING COMPLEX
Just past Hanauma Bay, heading towards Sandy Beach

Join the HRA for a day of fun and shooting
Enjoy all of the shooting venues and firearms available
NRA Certified Instructors to assist you

Where Have All the Game Birds Gone?

By Richard Hoefflinger

Seventy years ago, a kindly man took a teenager under his wing and introduced him to hunting. I have adopted that lifestyle ever since, pursuing game animals large and small in the 5 states in which I resided. Over time, I developed a partiality to hunting upland game birds over pointing dogs. It was the variety and abundance of huntable bird populations, along with some of the friendliest people on earth that brought me to the Island of Hawaii 25 years ago. Where else could a hunter approach a locked-up gundog, not knowing whether the critter under his nose was a 3-ounce Japanese quail, a 20-pound Rio Grande turkey, or any one of the 14 other feathered flyers on the Island's game bird list? For me, these were the best of times. Where have they gone?

Early signs of diminished game bird populations were apparent in the reduced numbers seen feeding along the sides of rural roadways. A former harbinger of seasonal hunting success – the count of game bird roadkill observed along high-speed sections of Saddle Road – was virtually zero. Now halfway through the 2017-2018 season, many hunters have given up for lack of any measure of harvest success.

There has been an ebb and flow of game bird abundance over the years, which most believed to be driven by the amount, distribution, and timing of rainfall. In years when the mountain was green in the

spring, good hunting usually followed in the fall. In the past 2 years however, there has been a very noticeable decline in Big Island game bird populations, and it's unlikely it is drought related. There appears to have been more than adequate precipitation. In many locations the brush is hip-deep, impenetrable by birds, dogs, and humans.

Over the past several years, fireweed (*Senecio madagascariensis*) has all but covered the western slopes of Mauna Kea, and is now found on the eastern side of the mountain. A 2013 release of a biological control agent, the Madagascan fireweed moth (*Secusio extensa*), does not appear to have been effective in halting its spread. Hunters traveling fireweed-infested roads experience blizzards of blowing seed pods, resulting in clogged radiators and overheated engines.

In a December 2016 meeting with representatives of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the writer stated he found evidence of fireweed in the crops of Erckel's francolins and Ring-necked pheasants. A 2005 UH-Manoa report indicated poultry were the second most susceptible animal group to the adverse effects of fireweed's pyrrolizidine alkaloid poisoning. DLNR indicated it would look into the possibility of fireweed poisoning. It is unknown if any subsequent follow-up activity occurred.



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Where Have All the Game Birds Gone?

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In his classic 1933 publication, *Game Management*, Aldo Leopold related a 1928 episode in Georgia in which fire ants destroyed over 12 percent of quail nests by invading the eggs as they pipped. Fire ants constitute another widespread and as yet uncontrolled species that has invaded the Island over the past few years. Could this noxious insect have some bearing on Hawaii Island's game bird decline? It would appear to be worth a cursory review.

It has also been suggested that unusually heavy spring precipitation may have played a part in the spread of a fatal disease among newly hatched chicks, although there is no known factual evidence to support the speculation one way or the other.

Whether either or any of the potentially adverse causes described is related to the observed decline in game bird abundance remains unknown. What is known is that something is inhibiting their production, and it is not limited to any one species. It is also clear that DLNR, the department assigned the statutory duty to "manage and administer the wildlife and wildlife resources of the State" and to "gather and compile information and statistics concerning the area, location, character, and increase and decrease of wildlife in the State" [HRS §183D], is the agency responsible for addressing the problem.

In the past, DLNR and hunting community volunteers conducted bird population surveys prior to each hunting season. Traveling assigned and consistent routes, observers recorded game birds seen by number and specie. Game bird counts subsequently fell into disuse under waning DLNR leadership and interest.

Were they continued, declining abundance trends may have been detected at an earlier date.

Over the past 30 years, DLNR's priorities have increasingly focused on native species protection. Some believe there has been a virtual exclusion of attention to game animals, except as targets for eradication and control. The Hawaii State Constitution states "all public natural resources are held in trust by the State for the benefit of the people". It does not differentiate between 'native' and 'introduced' species, an arbitrary distinction employed by many when discussing wildlife. DLNR's statutory responsibility to manage and administer wildlife resources is also clearly stated. There is no modifier preceding 'wildlife', indicating its application is to all wildlife, including game animals.

The described public resource decline may provide an indication of things to come. Left unaddressed, game bird hunting in Hawaii could become an activity of the past; fondly recalled by only a few. But that doesn't mean hunters have to sit idly by and watch their prerogative to a chosen lifestyle disappear. They need to get involved and demand Hawaii's game resources be managed in accordance with constitutional and statutory mandates, under a plan that incorporates elements essential for resource sustainability, and to which they have input and oversight. We need to work together to find where all the Island's game birds have gone, and what needs to be done to bring them back.

Richard Hoeflinger is a Hawaii Island hunter and gundog trainer.

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Hawaii Rifle Association www.hawaiiifleassociation.org Membership Form

Today's Date: _____

This is a ☐ new ☐ renewal membership

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(For joint memberships only)

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Multiple years of annual membership may be purchased _____

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HRAmemberships@yahoo.com

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HRA Patch	\$5.00		\$6.00	
HRA Sticker	\$1.00		\$1.00	

Item	Color*	Size	Quantity	Sum

*T-Shirts available in Ash Gray, Navy Blue, Khaki Tan

Subtotal: _____

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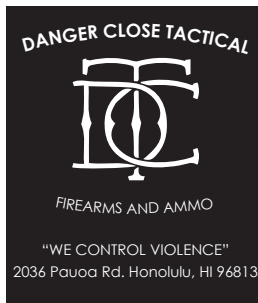
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2018 Shooting Sports Calendar

March 17 - 18, 2018, Great Guns Gun Show,
Blaisdell Center

June 16 - 17, 2018, Shooting Sports Fair, Koko Head
Shooting Complex

September 22 - 23, 2018, DLNR Hunting and Fishing
Days

September 29 - 30, 2018, Great Guns Gun Show,
Blaisdell Center

October 6, 2018, Sportsman's Challenge

November 11, 2018, Oahu Friends of NRA Dinner,
Kaneohe Marine Corps Base

LIFE schedule for handgun classes on Oahu. Check
www.lifehawaii.com for details.

LIFE Funshoots: KHSC Action Bay 1. Sessions at 10 AM
and 12:30 PM. For details, visit the website at
<http://www.kaneohegs.com/events.htm> and register for
the shoot at www.lifehawaii.com.

Puuloa Rifle & Pistol Club conducts high power rifle
matches each month and occasional marksmanship
clinics. Check <http://puuloa.com/events.html> for details.

HMSA rimfire silhouette competitions at 9 AM Sundays
following the first Saturday of each month. KHSC
silhouette range. \$5, hot lunch included.

SASH cowboy action meets monthly at 8 AM, KHSC
Action Bay 2. Check <http://sashgunclub.com/> for details.

Mid Pacific Pistol League conducts numerous events
each month. Check <http://www.mppl.net/> for details.

Hawaii Basic Hunter Education Course. For information
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The Hawaii Rifleman Classified Ad Form

Ad Size: up to 3 lines 30 characters/spaces per line
Member Cost: FREE
Non-member cost: \$7.50 per issue, payable in advance

Please run the following ad in the Hawaii Rifleman for ___ issue(s).
I have enclosed my payment in the amount of \$_____.

Ad will run for the number of issue(s) specified and
is withdrawn unless renewed (or canceled earlier).

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The Editor reserves the right to reject any ad deemed unsuitable.
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CLASSIFIEDS

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ITEM: Folding pistol frame, \$15 each. Call 732-7066.

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Call 232-5443 for list.

Deadline for submitting articles, photos and letters to the Rifleman is
the FIRST Monday of each month. Email submissions to: hghawaii@gmail.com. Please scan photos at 200 dpi grayscale and proof text
before submitting AD.

RATES FOR THE HAWAIIAN RIFLEMAN PER REG. MONTHLY ISSUE.
Approved by HRA BOD Sept. 1, 2005.

DISPLAY AD 4 X 4"	\$50
1/2 PAGE	\$100
3/4 INSIDE PAGE	\$150
3/4 FRONT PAGE	\$300

Camera-ready copy must be submitted electronically to Harvey,
hghawaii@gmail.com, 6 wks prior to the effective date of the ad.