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Promoting and protecting the Bill of Rights, especially the Second Amendment

July 2022 – Volume 3, Issue 7

In Support of Freedom

Happy Birthday America – Smoke ‘em while you got ‘em!

This July 4th marks the 246th birthday of our nation. While things are a bit out of control these days, with freedom and liberty under attack from all directions, for now, this is still the greatest nation on the planet. Why else would record numbers of illegal aliens risk their lives navigating cartels, coyotes, and the Rio Grande? Everyone wants to be here, trouble is so many want to make it like where they came from instead of abiding to its Constitution and Bill of Rights. Given the current state of our nation, when one reads the Declaration of Independence today, one cannot help but wonder when enough will be enough and the people will “throw off such government?”



Interesting Isn't It?

The “Republicans for the Reelection of Joe Biden” just handed Der Fuehrer his biggest legislative victory against the 2nd Amendment to date. I find it interesting that legislation having made its way through Congress and signed by the “President” will have fewer ramifications on law-abiding gun owners than rulemaking actions already taken and still pending by the ATF. Redefining machine guns to include “bump stocks” (thanks Trump), and redefining frames and



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receivers and how they must be identified, including privately made firearms, will have much more impact on the gun community than the pathetic “Bipartisan Safer Communities Act.” ATF has yet to release its rulemaking on “Stabilizing Braces,” which will turn untold millions of previously legal “pistols” into short-barreled rifles subject to the National Firearms Act. This rule is scheduled for release in August, but who knows when Der Fuehrer Biden will order it released for his own political gain.

Some of us saw the pistol brace rule coming as soon as they became a thing, notwithstanding the fact that all infringements of the right to keep and bear arms are unconstitutional, you don't have to be a rocket scientist to see that putting stabilizing braces on pistols and using them like stocks is simply circumventing the NFA, and sooner or later, the law would come for them. None of my weapons have ever had a bump stock, pistol brace, or binary/forced-reset trigger. Not because I think they should be illegal, but because I felt they would become illegal, and I would avoid becoming a “criminal.” A terrible way to operate, but staying out of jail makes one available if it comes time to battle tyrants in the streets. Moral of the story - we have much more to fear from unelected bureaucrats overstepping their bounds, than we do from our elected representatives. We must pay attention to this trend, and rein them in, or they will continue stripping away our liberties.

Preparing for Uncertain Times...

For our supporters over at im4rights.local.com, I've been presenting a series of articles on my top five categories for basic preparedness, which are: Food, Shelter, Water, Mobility, and Defense. Everyone knows that food, shelter, and water are essential to sustain life, but mobility and defense can also be critical. A close sixth is Medical, and I've covered my vehicle trauma/first-aid kit there as well. This month I'll be focusing on Mobility.

In making your preparations, you should focus on preparing for short-term, long-term, and permanent events. I define short-term as a few weeks, long-term as a few months to a year, and permanent as over a year. The length of a short-term event is generally estimable soon after the event occurs – think a power failure after a hurricane. The length of a long-term event is generally less estimable – think a need for temporary housing after a tornado. Long-term events can turn into permanent events which may last for an undetermined length of time – think a war or blockade. During a long-term event, you must be preparing for the event to possibly become permanent. Start with the basics for short-term events and work your way to permanent events. To access these preparedness articles and other info, click the link above and become a supporter for \$2 per month.

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Back to Preps (part 4 - Mobility)...

In this month's Back to Preps article, we will discuss mobility, or more precisely, the ability to relocate for safety reasons or to travel to acquire materials, goods, and services. The ability to get from point A to point B cannot be underestimated. From the dawn of time, humans have had to move to survive, whether by land, water, or more recently, by air. In a perfect world, we would be completely self-sufficient without inputs needed from outside our local boundaries. However, unless one lives the simplest of lifestyles where the bare minimum of sustainable resources necessary to provide food, shelter, and water are available, there will always be a need for the exchange of resources, goods, and services with those from outside our local boundaries. Local boundaries can run the spectrum from your own piece of land to a city, county, state, or nation.

In the end, food, shelter, and water are all that is required to support life, but even if you have access to everything you need within your local boundary today that may change tomorrow or an event may occur that drives you away. Flood, drought, fire, earthquake, severe weather, and/or civil unrest may make your current situation untenable and require you to move. In these cases, mobility becomes essential to get to another place where food, shelter, and water are available. How will you travel if necessary to relocate or to obtain goods and services?

As P.J. from Viking Preparedness points out, pick-up trucks are today's Conestoga wagons, especially the full-size, 4-door versions

(preferably with a topper). As long as fuel is obtainable, these vehicles are the bomb when it comes to bugging out for whatever reason. Vans and large SUVs are excellent also, then small SUVs, minivans, station wagons, and finally regular cars. After all, we have to make do with what we have when the balloon goes up.



If fuel is unavailable, but the ability to charge an electric vehicle exists, they may be an option to get you from point A to point B. Right now, the two best electric trucks are the Ford F-150 Lightning and the Rivian R1T, but they are pricey and hard to come by. As with all EV's, range to recharge is a concern, and additional capacity costs extra. If I had a bunch of money, I didn't need for other things, I would really consider getting a Zero DSR 14.4 electric dual sport motorcycle. The list price is about \$16K; however, you can throw in another \$2.9K for a "power tank" to extend its range. An E-bike

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would be a much more affordable option (about a tenth the cost of the Zero DSR), but much slower and with much less range. The again, it would be more easily charged with solar power.

If fuel is unavailable, and the ability to charge an electric vehicle does not exist, there are still plenty of options to get you from one place to another. Bicycles are a time-honored method of traveling and are heavily used in some parts of the world. Set up properly, they can be useful in a bugout situation. Bikes do require maintenance and sometimes break, so it is important to have air pumps, tools, and spare parts available. If there are navigable waters nearby, a sailboat, rowboat, canoe, or kayak can be used to travel. If available, pack animals like horses, donkeys, and mules are also an option, but they do require food, water, and care.



Finally, there is the good old “shoe leather express,” the original form of transportation. Walking may be the only option in some cases due to the terrain or the need for stealth. Humans can travel many places that vehicles cannot, and they can do so quietly and unseen, if necessary. If you live in snow country, cross-country skis and snowshoes can be lifesavers, if you find yourself afoot in deep snow. Being able to swim could be a difference maker in a survival situation. It may be more efficient to swim across a body of water than to walk around it or find a way over it.

Regardless of your method of travel, carts, wagons, and trailers can help you bring more gear and supplies. Picture refugees leaving a war zone; often they utilize carts, wagons, or trailers to bring along the materials they will need to survive at their destinations. In essence, if you are forced to leave your location for any reason, you are a refugee until you have established yourself in a new location.

It is important to remember that all forms of human-powered travel presuppose a level of fitness required to make the journey. The better your fitness level, the better your chances of making it from point A to point B. If walking, swimming, biking, paddling, etc. are contingencies in your bugout plan, get out there and train for the day your life depends on getting from point A to point B.

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