

Written by William S. Hahn on August 6, 2024





## 2A Enthusiasts Know What Taking Action Is All About

There's no question about it: I love guns. From my childhood to the present day, guns have always been a staple in my home. We used guns for hunting and target shooting, and they were the source of safe outdoor activity for hours on end. Firearms are nothing more than a tool made of metal, wood, and plastic. They're the tool you shouldn't be without and you hope you never need.



In the early years of my career, I was an in-house book publicist for a publisher. Included in the line of books we published were gun references and how-to hunting guides. In promoting these books, I interacted quite regularly with authors and contacts within the firearms media industry. The late Jim Scoutten, longtime host of *Shooting USA*, placed our annual references in the bookcase of his TV studio. During the segments in which he was in the studio standing by the bookcase, viewers could usually pick them out, including the *Standard Catalog of Firearms*. He once signed a photo for me with the inscription, "Bill, without your books, I'm stupid." His humility was second only to his love of educating others. The firearms industry is full of people like Jim.

As a publicist, I attended several large consumer and trade shows each year throughout the country. For the firearms industry, the pinnacle trade show is the SHOT (Shooting, Hunting, and Outdoor Trade) Show, held in the beginning of the year in Las Vegas.

The SHOT Show provides a great opportunity to see a slice of the overall industry, including not only the key companies and people who create the guns and gear, but also those who are active in protecting our God-given right to self-defense as encapsulated in the Second Amendment. Associations such as Gun Owners of America, the National Association for Gun Rights, and the Second Amendment Foundation were then and still are well-known and well-respected within the industry. Although I did not bring my industry contact list with me when I went to work at The John Birch Society (as the list was compiled as an employee and not as an agent), I do remember sending news releases and books to these associations.

Each of those organizations is unique and brings its own set of strengths to the table. It's the main reason why we asked them to be part of the new, one-hour 2A for Today weekly radio program we are now producing through The New American. Each is member-based and provides leadership and avenues of action to help preserve the Second Amendment. In 2013, the left-wing magazine Mother Jones published an article titled "7 Gun Groups That Make the NRA Look Reasonable" and included these three organizations. These bona fides give you an idea of their uncompromising view of the Second Amendment.

They all provide a great service, and we are proud to have them as partners for the show, which debuted on more than 50 radio stations. Episodes will be hard-hitting and exploratory, designed to give listeners a glimpse into the bigger picture of why gun rights are being attacked domestically and internationally. Also covered are current threats, solutions, and even a short segment on products and





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Published in the August 26, 2024 issue of the New American magazine. Vol. 40, No. 16

practice. Joe Wolverton II, J.D., constitutional law scholar at The John Birch Society, is hosting the show.

No doubt The John Birch Society and these fine gun groups have some overlapping membership. While the gun groups focus mainly on one vital issue, JBS focuses on the overarching agenda that attacks not just the Second Amendment, but the entire principled base of Western civilization. One international organization heading up the attacks on the Second Amendment is the United Nations. JBS has been exposing the UN's gun-grabbing efforts for many decades. For those who want to keep their guns, getting out of the UN should be a top priority.

The DEFUND Act (H.R. 6654 and S. 3428) would get the U.S. out of the UN —  $\frac{\text{contact Congress today}}{\text{to take action}}$ . Invite Second Amendment fans to listen to the new show, and join JBS to help preserve and restore freedom through local activities.



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