



Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence

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Hoosiers Concerned About Gun Violence is asking you to renew your membership for 2010. The board has decided to send a membership renewal letter at the beginning of the year, rather than expecting members to remember whether they have paid and send in a renewal if they haven't based on reminders in the Newsletter.

The past year saw a legislative session in which a number of bills were introduced intending to expand the penetration of guns into the workplace and colleges, but these were defeated. A positive bill to improve reporting of people committed for mental health treatment to the data base used by gun dealers to screen hand gun purchasers got through the Senate but wasn't heard in the House. The Indianapolis Star ran an expose on the laxity of the State police in granting gun carry permits, focusing on a number of permit holders who went on to commit crimes involving guns. The Bloomington Herald-Times published the addresses of gun permit holders, provoking an exchange of letters on the right of neighbors to know who is armed and permit holders to keep that information private. Sadly, a graduate student at IU is facing felony charges after shooting and killing an acquaintance while playing with a gun he didn't think was loaded.

The biggest event for HCGV was the visit of Paul Helmke, President of the Brady Campaign, on August 15 to Indianapolis. It was a very hot Saturday, and turnout was a little disappointing. There was some good media coverage as IUPUI students representing the guns on campus movement showed up and joined the discussion.

At our last meeting, the Board made a decision to restructure the organization into committees which will each take on particular functions. We hope this structure will lead to better opportunities for members beyond the board to be involved in the work. The three committees are **Public Affairs and Education**, chaired by Steve Dunlop, **Legislation**, chaired by Marshall Gibson, a new Board member and someone already active at the Statehouse on behalf of the Friends churches (please confirm this with Marion), and a committee on **Administration and Membership**, co-chaired by Marian Towne and Dave Mason. We will be getting out more detailed information on these committees in the near future.

We continue to work on our website, and our Facebook page has generated interest. We have been represented by letters in the Star, WRTV-6 and Steve Dunlop did a radio show on WIBC which examined gun issues as part of a series on legal topics. We still have a lot to do in a state that continues to experience a high rate of gun violence.

Name _____
 Address _____

 Phone _____
 Committee _____
 \$25.00 Enclosed
 E-Mail _____

Board of Directors

Dr. Stephen Dunlop, Rev. Loring Prosser, Marian Towne, Dr. David Mason, William Ney, Joyce Bowman
Dr. Marilyn Bull, Rev. Roger Heimer, Angela Plank, Repr. Greg Porter, Prof. Brad Yoder, Joe Zelenka