

# Letters to the editor . . .

**Dear Editor:**

I was very disappointed in the lack of public response to the Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation course offered at the Maytown Fire Company last week. Only two people took that opportunity to learn

the proper procedure for treating emergency situations such as heart attack or drowning.

I cannot understand such a lack of interest in a subject that may some day be a matter of life or death to someone you love.

If someone dies because you have neglected this training, you must live with it for the rest of your life.

The entire experience has certainly dampened my interest in organizing such courses for the public.

Sincerely yours,  
Mike Kanoff

**To the Editor:**

The Marietta Youth Athletic Association would like to thank those Marietta area Merchants for their donations towards the MYAA girls tournament:

Byers Pastries, Sharp's Distributors, Marco's Pizza Edgar Appley's News

Agency, Millers Mobil, Appley's Flower Shop, Herr's Fruit Market, Youndt's Meat Market, Billmeyer's Jewelry Store, C. P. and L. Gas and Groceries.

Bank Street Aquarium, Art Zuch, Kunzlers, Groff Chips, Columbia Tobacco

Company, Hy-Lo Discount Store, Spangler's Appliance for the sound system

and the Pioneer Fire Company for pumping the field.

In gratitude,  
Winnie Bensinger  
MYAA Coach

**Dear Editor,**

I am writing to Bishop James M. Ault in answer to his letter of June 30, 1976, to the secretary of the Federated Sportsmen of Lancaster County, Harold L. Milligan.

As president of this organization, I have quite a few thoughts I would like to pass on to you. The sportsmen organizations are very upset by your denomination's position on handguns.

You stated in that letter that proposed legislation would not hamper the activities of any sportsmen. I use my handgun every year for deer hunting, and it would make it difficult for me to do this if it was locked up in our local sportsclub. Having guns locked up at a sportsclub, by the way, would make it a very vulnerable place for robberies. You state they would be locked under secure condition. The United States Army, with their elaborate security measures, can't keep thieves out of their armories; how would we be expected to keep them out of our sportsclubs. We know what would happen after a few clubhouse robberies; the guns would be removed forever. The same old story - confiscation of all guns.

You talk about concern over 32,000 deaths by firearms. Your 1974 figures show 15,000 murders, 14,000 suicides, 3,000 accidents. I think it very foolish for you to state that if even a few of these deaths might have been avoided by a ban on handguns, the ban

would be worthwhile. We could apply this to many, many things in our society today, such as sleeping pills, razor blades and rope. I think the Methodist Church would do better to continue it's work in the counseling area of suicide. As for the 15,000 murders, I feel a return to the enforcement of the death penalty would be a sure cure for reducing murder with any kind of instrument. Concerning the death penalty, I note that the Methodist Church is considering joining a new coalition to fight the use of capital punishment. It does appear that the Church is being especially considerate of the criminal while trying to impose new regulations and hardships upon the law abiding citizen.

I understand that the Methodist Church is active in the National Coalition to Ban Handguns, and that you are supporting a lobbyist for this cause. I know, and I am sure you know also, that it is against the law for any tax exempt organization to engage in this type of political activity. If this situation continues, the sportsmen may feel obligated to take steps to stop this lobbying.

According to the F.B.I., where you must have gotten your figures, 50% of all crime in the United States is done by people under 20 years of age. Under the 1968 Gun Control Act, no one under 21 years of age may own a handgun. Let's work together for enforcement of existing laws, not propose new ones.

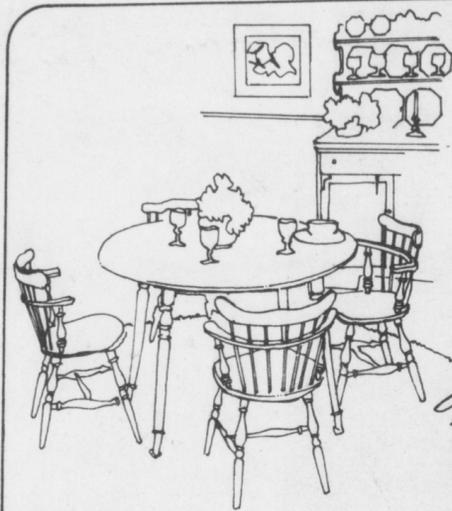
As I stated before, I hunt

deer and groundhogs with handguns. My wife and both children enjoy target shooting with my handguns. Now your church is trying to tell me I shouldn't have the right to own a handgun, even though I've never broken any laws. I never thought I'd see the day that a church would take the same stand against guns that the Communists have taken throughout the years.

In my travels around the county, and various trips to sportsclub meetings, I have had the opportunity to talk to hundred of Methodists. What I don't understand is that not one is in agreement with your stand. At our Southern Division meeting of the Federated Sportsmen, I made a motion to go against your stand; and it passed with no objections. This now makes Lancaster, Adams, Cumberland, Franklin, Juniata, Lebanon, Perry, Dauphin, and York Counties, consisting of 37,798 members, against your proposals. I feel very sure that the PA Federated Sportsmen will also take action soon.

It was stated that 10 million United Methodists are in favor of outlawing handguns. I know that a poll was not taken of your members to get their opinions on the gun control issue. Maybe you should take a roll call and see if you have 10 million members left.

Sincerely,  
Donald E. Zeller, President  
Federated Sportsmen of Lancaster County



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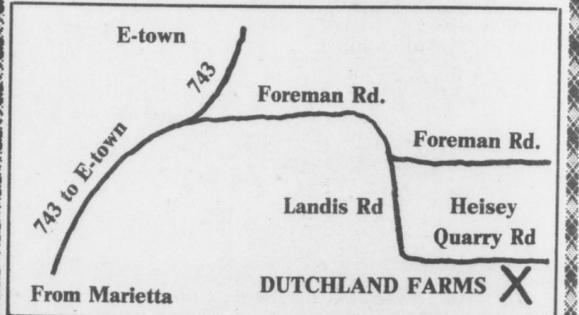
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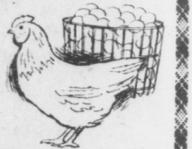
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