



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Next Member Meeting



Everglades Recreation Center: April 2nd Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30.

Eisenhower Recreation Center: April 22nd Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30.

April Member Appreciation Award: Kel Tec P17 With 500 Rounds of .22LR ammo.



April Topic: Non-Tradition Law Enforcement by Sumter Sheriff's Department

Heroes & Demons

Club member Don Fraser gave an insightful presentation on military heroes and their demons for the March VSS meetings.

He started with the brief history of the Medal of Honor winners from the Civil War, WW1 and especially WW2, profiling Audi Murphy. Don also highlighted Charles Durning who did not get the Medal of Honor but did get three purple hearts and other battle medals.

The second focus was on PTSD (Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder) that many heroes get while serving their country. In WW1 it was called "Shell Shock" and in WW2 bomber crews called it "Flack Happy." Now we call it PTSD.

A very interesting post-military career for both men is their successful acting careers. In both cases the

famous actor James Cagney was involved getting both men into acting. Don's opinion is that acting helped both men with their PTSD as they portrayed others in their acting roles which helped them cope with the PTSD from WW2.

The current Apple TV series *Masters of the Air* is the latest in the WW2 series on military combat after *The Band of Brothers* and *The Pacific*. Don recommends that we watch this 9-episode series for a better understanding of the dangers and demons that WW2 bomber air crews faced over Europe.

Deputy Charlette



During the January VSS meetings the Sumter County Sheriffs introduced the very friendly six-year-old Deputy Charlette, one of the counties blood hounds. Recently Deputy Charlette was treated for cancer and has since retired from the Sheriff's department.

We wish the best for Deputy Charlette.

Shooting Accessories

The following little bits you need to make your range trips more successful. Many of us acquired range bags to carry our gun stuff to the range, but do we have everything that we need?



As we collect these necessary gun range accessories, we will certainly need the cart at the door of Shooters World to get all this stuff to your lane in the range. Or all the items that make it nicer at one of the VSS outdoor ranges.

[Necessary Accessories](#)



Firearms Basics



The largest group of new firearms owners is women and of course we do have the Ladies Only Shoot every other Friday at our Shooter World daily events.

This article with a great video explains the firearms basics geared to the ladies new to our sport:

[What Makes a Firearm?](#)

Glock G19 MOS for Carry

Yes, the Glock 19 is one of most popular concealed carry handguns on the market. There are many upgrades that you can choose to make your CCW gun more accurate, easier to shoot and carry.

This article highlights that gun and the options to make it even better.

[Glock G19 Gen5 MOS](#)



Is Fresh Ammo the Best Ammo?

Many of us buy ammo when the price is right or its readily available, but how good is it to store it?

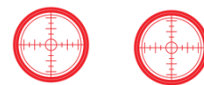


Your local police or Sheriffs do collect misfire ammo and we also expect that they also collect old ammo for safe disposal.



Here are a few ways to assess whether the ammo you have on hand is good, bad or safe:

[Is Fresh Ammo the Best Ammo?](#)



Tactical Shotguns



We have covered shotguns previously, including the 12 Ga mini shells. Here is an article geared toward the ladies on tactical shotguns.

[Mossberg's More Manageable Tactical Shotguns](#)

We must reject the idea that every time a law's broken, society is guilty rather than the lawbreaker. It is time to restore the American precept that each individual is accountable for his actions. – Ronald Reagan



Instructor's Corner



By Steve Mosel



(These articles are the opinions of the writer only and in no way reflect official positions of the Villages Straight Shooters - or anyone with good sense

for that matter - SM)

“REVISITING COURTESY”

From time to time, I'm reminded that everyone has bad days (including me) and, being human, we can behave a tad less civilly towards one another than we normally would. At the shooting range this can take several forms, from arguing with an RSO to not even attempting to clean up after yourselves. The following are several things a courteous shooter should do regularly. It always pays dividends in the long run.

AVOID STANDING TOO FAR FORWARD IN YOUR LANE: This sometimes goes unnoticed by the shooter but is almost always noticed by the guy or gal in the lane to their right. Since most handguns eject their empty cases to the right side, having your muzzle extended too far out in front of the boards dividing lanes will often result in the empty cases flying over the top and pelting the head of your right-side neighbor. It's the reason we suggest you wear a baseball cap or the equivalent when visiting a range. The bill will prevent the resulting brass from bonking you in the face or on the head.

DON'T ARGUE WITH THE RSO'S: If the RSO (Range Safety Officer) tells you to do something, do it. (This includes our instructors who are also all RSO's.) They're the authorities in charge. If you disagree with the "request", take it up with the shoot manager later and work it out. This is especially true of the RSO representing the range you're visiting. It is essential we maintain good relations with these facilities and the last thing we need is some curmudgeonly member ruining the Club's reputation of cooperation. Let the shoot manager deal with the politics!



CLEAN UP YOUR LANE AFTER SHOOTING: Of course, the RSO will be happy to sweep up your brass after you finish. But you can at least offer to do it along with tossing your used targets, empty cartridge boxes, etc. into the trash. Other courteous moves, especially if you're shooting on your own at a non-club activity, is to turn off the lane lights and remove any cardboard backers you may have brought along. Leave it like you found it!

THANK THE STAFF WORKING THE EVENT: This includes the facility staff, but remember that the Villages Straight Shooters RSO's, Instructors and Shoot Managers are all unpaid volunteers. It gives them a warm fuzzy to be acknowledged occasionally.

SUPPRESSORS: Certainly, you won't see many suppressors (silencers) at the handgun ranges. But for you long-gun folk, remember that the muzzle brake at the end of your rifle can make your firearm awfully loud. It's true that going to the rifle range, even with your relatively quiet .22 LR in tow, means you take your chances. But it can be quite a shock to the system to be joined by someone shooting a huge-bore hunting rifle in the lane next to you. If a suppressor is within your financial means, it's a nice touch and isn't a bad idea for your personal aural health as well.

BE ON TIME!: One of the things that really gets under the skin of a shoot manager is when one of the members shows up about a minute before the doors open. This is just after all the paperwork, membership cards, pens, pouches, etc. have been stowed away and the safety lecture has been given to everyone else. The late member must then receive their own mini-lecture and the other administrative duties of the manager go wanting. Please plan on arriving at least fifteen minutes before the shoot begins!



Most of you already follow the majority of the suggestions above. We have a great bunch of members who make the experience wonderfully fulfilling for the volunteers and staff of the facilities we haunt. Think of these suggestions as a well-intentioned reminder - just in case you've forgotten.

See you at the range!



**An unarmed man can only flee from evil,
and evil is not overcome by fleeing from it.**
Lt.Col. Jeff Cooper

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