



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Next Member Meeting



Everglades Recreation Center: January 2, 2024
Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30

Eisenhower Recreation Center: January 22, 2024
Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30



Member Appreciation Award:
Ruger Max 9, 9mm double stack magazine, 3.4' barrel, 18.4 oz.

January Topic: TBD, watch the VSS website for details on the topic.

2024 VSS Bylaws Update

We will be voting the proposed Bylaws change at the February 2024 VSS Meeting. Here is a copy of the proposed changes: [VSS Bylaws 2024 Version](#)

2023 Marksberry Award

This year's Marksberry Award winner was Colleen Rutherford - for service to the club. Pictured with Colleen (left to right): Don Fraser, Steve Mosel and Floyd Dunstan. It was a shock to receive this award – “very humbling and much appreciated.” commented Colleen.



.38 Special Vs. 9mm Revolvers



Have you ever wondered why the 9mm has similar ballistics to a .38 Special even though the

cartridge is much smaller? This article will explain that history of both calibers and compare their performance in similar snub nose revolvers:

[38 Special Vs. 9mm](#)

Ban “Gas Operated Semiautomatic” Firearms



Well, the Federal government is now trying a new tactic to ban scary military style guns. They are now going after gas operated guns, which covers AR platforms and others like the M-1A, M1 Carbine and Mini-14 style guns. As the attached article discusses, it could impact even handguns since not every handgun is a “Blow Back” design.

["Gas Operated Semiautomatic" Firearms Ban](#)



“America’s Largest Outdoor Shooting Range”

Well, that title did catch your eye, didn’t it? And it’s not what you think it is.

Of course, we are talking about the firearm killing fields in Chicago.

Humans have not changed over time, but their actions do based on the environment that they are living in. Look at what happened in Israel on October 7th. The Hamas education and government system in Gaza has been twisted in the last 20 years, so its citizens truly believe that the horrendous actions of Hamas in Israel are justified.

And that is happening in the US. Large city governments are not enforcing effective crime prevention laws or are changing laws to protect certain parts of their societies. And the people in the societies that politicians are protecting are killing the families of the so called protected. Everyone loses.

[Crime in "America's Largest Outdoor Shooting Range" - Lies, Damned Lies, and Statistics](#)

This can be fixed by electing strong anti-crime politicians that will enforce good laws and fund law enforcement along with legislating new laws that protect the law-abiding citizens.

Majority of Voter Households Own Firearms



The last few weeks haven’t been kind to gun grabbers - and we’re not just talking about President Joe Biden’s woeful poll numbers. Black Friday

is typically the largest day of the year for gun sales. This year, gun buyers set a record for FBI National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) checks on the unofficial holiday. Even better, on November 21, NBC News published a piece titled, “Poll: Gun ownership reaches record high with American electorate.”

[Majority of Voter Households Own Firearms](#)

Gun Owners Legal Questions

Continuation of this series first published in the November 2023 The Reticle.

Question 1:

I see advertisements in magazines, such as *American Rifleman*, for suppressors.

For the State of Florida, what laws / restrictions / requirements apply to the purchase and use of suppressors?



Answer:

Florida law does not impose any more restrictions than the National Firearms Act (obtain a tax stamp, ATF background check, etc). A great source for NFA can be found on ATF’s website at:

<https://www.atf.gov/firearms/national-firearms-act-handbook>



Question 2:

My father in Ohio died and left me all his guns in his will. Can I legally just take them home with me.

Answer:

The executor of the will can transfer the firearms directly to the member (as long as Ohio laws allows

it). Because this is an inheritance and not a gift or purchase, the member is not required to go through an FFL to bring the firearm back to Florida. Here is a link to an article we wrote on our website regarding inheriting a firearm:

<https://thefirearmfirm.com/inheriting-a-firearm/>

Question 3:

Is there a single source I can check to see if a gun I am planning to buy via private sale has been stolen?

Answer:

FDLE has a page on their website that allows a person to check:

<http://pas.fdle.state.fl.us/pas/restricted/PAS/StolenGun.jsf> .

This is probably the best website for a citizen to check whether or not a gun has been reported stolen.

How to Improve your Grip with the Presentation Process



Many of us have issues with the grip on handguns and this article will help on improving our handgun grip.

The grip is extremely important to control the recoil and keep the gun on target after firing. What good is a gun if you cannot hit your target every time accurately.

Lock the gun in place with a better grip and more predictable trigger placement, every time.

[How to Improve Grip with the Presentation Process](#)



LPVOs Vs. Red Dot Optics

So, you just bought your first AR-15 style rifle and would like to equip it with some type of optic. Do you choose a LPVO (Low Power Variable Optic) of a 1x red dot? The LPVO can be purchased with an internal battery powered red dot just like a conventional red dot. This article will explain the difference so you can make an informed decision on this important purchase. Both options are used by the military: [LPVO vs Red Dot Optics](#)



Finding the Right Pistol for Your Hand Size

We talk about caliber, pistol size and the proper grip, but all of this is washed out if the pistol you



are shooting does not fit properly. Control of the recoil is critical in your accuracy, so the proper grip on the proper pistol is required. Many modern pistols also have replaceable grip panels, which can be changed to get the proper grip and position your trigger finger properly. We do have NRA instructors in the club shooting events that can help you with pistol selection and the proper grip and trigger function: [Finding the Right Pistol for Your Hand Size](#)

"Foolish liberals who are trying to read the Second Amendment out of the constitution by claiming it's not an individual right or that it's too much of a safety hazard don't see the danger of the big picture. They're courting disaster by encouraging others to use this same means to eliminate portions of the Constitution they don't like." - Alan Dershowitz



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)

“WEAVER Vs. ISOSCELES!”

With a few exceptions, there are basically two stances you could choose from when firing a handgun. And, except when injuries or physical limitations are dictating the equation, it all depends upon the individual and what they're comfortable with. Let's take a look at both:

ISOSCELES:

A great starting point for any shooter using a handgun, it is aggressive but relatively easy to assume and, barring those pesky age-related hiccups, it allows the shooter to naturally point at the target.

On the negative side, some shooters tend to overdo the elbow locking thing and actually lessen the side strength pressure they need to help tame recoil. In addition, there can be some front to rear balance problems. This is the position that most of our instructors will suggest a new shooter begin.



WEAVER:

With the strong side leg drawn back (not too far please), this proves more comfortable for some. It also gives you an opportunity to apply the push-pull method of securing the firearm. The support arm

elbow does require a bit of bending. You might know the name of Col. Jeff Cooper, an innovator in modern pistol shooting, who tended to take the elbow-bend to the extreme and – to me – it just looked a bit strange.



A Modified Weaver stance, with the strong-side leg drawn a little forward, closer to the support leg, is also very popular. One advantage to either Weaver stance is that more side pressure can be applied to the firearm, providing improved recoil control. On the negative side, shooters tend to tilt their heads a bit when applying this stance and should be careful not to overdo it, which might throw off their sight picture.

Although I personally prefer the Modified Weaver stance, I admit to switching back to the Isosceles when I feel like I'm not concentrating enough. For some reason, it helps me bear down on the target. So why not use it all the time? Who knows?! I'm comfortable with both.

Try both (or something in between) and see how they feel. Ask an instructor to evaluate your stance. You'll eventually settle into your comfort zone and will hopefully improve your marksmanship.



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