



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Shooter's World Update

Things are starting to move! Photos at the end of the newsletter were taken throughout March. The entrances off Route 44A were laid out. Also, for the first time, aerial photos of Shooters World and Emeralda outdoor range are included. Projected openings: November for Shooter's World and March 2019 for Basics (SR 466 & US 441).

MEMBER MEETING Recap



TWO GREAT EUROPEAN FIREARM MANUFACTURERS - FN HERSTAL & CZ

By Don Fraser

Don presented an entertaining and informative review of two lesser known European gun manufacturers.

FN Herstal (Belgium)

In the 1800s, a company had to be diversified and as such gun manufacturers often started out as something else. In the case of FN it was cars, bikes and motorcycles. FN somewhat accidentally bumped into American John

Browning who gave FN his new gun design (after former Winchester refused to give him royalties on his patents). FN took the gun back to Belgium and after firing 5,000 rounds without a malfunction decided they wanted to work with Browning. FN also owns Winchester and Browning today.

Many of the U.S. Military's M4 collection of rifles are designed by and/or manufactured by FN (nope, not Colt who first started manufacturing the M-16). Their HQ is in Virginia but they recently opened a facility in Columbia, SC to supply our military. There are 8 million M16A4 distributed worldwide and remains the USMC standard issue. The US Army contracted for 120,000 in 2013.



They also produce other calibers, rifles, and shotguns as well as a very special design for the U.S. Secret Service (FNP90 – to see it, download the presentation from our website at the **Education tab | Meetings & Seminar Presentations**, right side.

FN produces striker and hammer fired pistols and one revolver model.

CZ (Chess Kaz Brevka Herski Brot) or CZ = Tsay Zeh or for us, just **CZ** (Czech Republic)

Did you know that the per capita ownership of firearms in the Czech Republic is one of the highest in the world? They love their guns.

Anyway, CZ was smart enough to build their factory to look like a small village, thus hiding in plain sight from Allied bombers during WWII. (See Don's presentation.)

CZ produces 125,000 firearms per year, 30% of which come to the USA. They acquired Dan Wesson line of guns in 1975, so another European company who saw the value in American designs. One slip up is that CZ originally settled in California but to their credit only remained there for 6 months. They are now firmly anchored in Kansas.

CZ produces pistols, rifles, and shotguns in a variety of designs. The CZ2075 RAMI pistol is a particularly sought after 9mm sub-compact. The flagship CZ75B has over 8 million produced.



They even produce the CZ455 American model; a bolt action .17HMR and .22 LR with interchangeable barrels.

Also reviewed were the line of guns from Dan Wesson who although owned by CZ still produces original Wesson designs.

Announcements:

Sumter Sheriff's Office, Villages Update

Lt. Siemer visited the Club again in February. One outstanding item remained, i.e. how to carry firearms in our golf cart to the forthcoming Shooters World. The response is that firearms must be securely cased pursuant to FL law. That

doesn't mean a padlock, rather in a closed case. Rifles cannot be carried in the open; only in a case. Therefore, no golf cart gun racks.

Activity Sign up Changes – Eventbrite to Regpack

Heads up: there is a new system being implemented to register for activities. Eventbrite will be phased out for Regpack. More details will be provided as this process evolves, but just be aware that Regpack will begin showing up when you register.



INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

By Stephen Mosel

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



“STRONGSIDE SUPPORT”



I must admit to admiring people who honestly don't care what others think of them. Oh sure, we all say it from time to time: “I could give a hoot what they think”. But the reality is that we usually do care, even if it's well-hidden under a tough veneer. And such it is on the shooting line at a gun range. Trying not to stare, we notice the guy next to us put 10 out of 10 in the black and our competitive juices start to flow. God forbid someone witnesses you punching a couple of flyers into the outside edge of the target. They obviously can't wait to get home to spread the word on social media or find the opportunity for immediate, on the spot humiliation. Consequently, no matter what you had in mind to work on at the range that day, everything gets tossed out the window and you revert to practicing only what you already do pretty well. Yup, you're almost guaranteed not to go home with your tail between your legs if you stick to a two-handed grip on your trusty target 22 with a red-dot sight, shooting at 5 yards into a life-sized silhouette target.



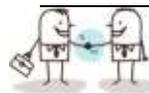
But these days, with so many shooters rightfully giving their home and/or carry guns an outing, the skill set that is glaringly missing is one-handed firing, especially with the “support” hand. Now notice that I didn’t say “weak” hand. The edgy gun writer, Sergeant Major Kyle Lamb (ret.), whose real-life combat resume is beyond



extensive, only allows the instructors at his Viking Tactics pistol classes to refer to the non-dominant side as “support” and never, “weak”. I agree. “Weak” sends an immediate message that you won’t do as well as when shooting with your strong hand. You may not, but will be guaranteed a poor outcome if you fail to practice the skill. You’ll never become comfortable canting the gun a bit to better line up your arm muscles and hopefully strengthen the maneuver.

Target shooting is fun. It’s beneficial to become a relaxed shooter who enjoys the sport. But if you’re serious about using your firearms for defensive purposes, from time to time it’s important to ramp up the intensity and practice all the skills necessary to become competent. That’s got to include using your supporting side on its own. If you’re unfortunate enough to get into an altercation – especially one involving firearms - there’s certainly a chance of injury to your strong side and you may find yourself depending upon the side that’s been ignored during your practice sessions. Have fun, but don’t forget about that “other side”. It could turn out to be a really important omission.

Note: Consider working your way up through the Winchester Program and taking Defensive Pistol I and II as well as taking the two courses “Personal Protection Inside & Outside The Home” classes offered by the Club. You won’t be sorry.



MEET THE MEMBER

By Stephen Mosel

This month it is MEET THE DIRECTORS

“THE BOARD ROOM”

Instead of an individual or couple, I thought it might be interesting this month to ask a few questions at the end of a VSS Board of Directors meeting. And I’ll admit upfront that the title of the article, “The Board Room”, might be a bit self-important, as we met on a soggy Monday afternoon at Panera’s in Sumter Landing (the pastry is irresistible!). Attending were the Directors: Terry Marksberry (and for those that have been living under a rock, also our President); Chuck Wildzunas (the Chairman); Don Fraser; Jules Jacquin; and Dave Agnew. Also present were Club Secretary, Dianne Olsen and Treasurer, Tish Benasutti.

Steve: The Club has grown so big, so quickly. Are there any thoughts on capping the membership?

Terry: “As long as we can remain responsive to the members and have enough volunteer help, there’s no need presently. For the longest time, only about four people were running the Club and we were very close to burning out.”

Steve: Do we currently have enough volunteers?

Terry: “We wrote job descriptions for the volunteers and that really helped garner interest. We’re at 3% volunteers right now, and that’s excellent.”

Chuck: “And we’ve been fortunate enough to get volunteers for every level and job description.”

Steve: Hundreds of people show up to the popular general meetings, yet we continually see many of the same faces at the Club shoots. Should we be concerned?

Terry: “About 25% of the membership participate. That’s one reason we started the Beginner Shoots.”

Jules: “The Beginner Shoots are popular and always full. It keeps them coming back.”

Don: “I also think we do a little better at the Winchester Shoots than the General Shoots.”

Dave: “Yes, the Winchester program is so popular because you’re only competing against yourself.”

Don: “True! “Competition” can be a dirty word to a new shooter. They’re afraid of embarrassing themselves.”

Steve: What’s our current relationship with The Villages and will Shooter’s World constructing a venue in our own backyard change anything?

Terry: “We really don’t have any formal relationship with the Villages management. I’ve submitted Club news a number of times to The Villages Daily Sun and, in spite of our size, it’s been ignored. I don’t know if Shooter’s World will make any difference.”

Chuck: “The paper has a bias toward covering events occurring only on The Villages property. Most of our events, by necessity, are not on Villages property.”

Steve: What would be on your fantasy list for the future of the Club?

Chuck: “Our own range.”

Don: “More tactical training and steel shooting opportunities.”

Terry: “A venue of adequate size so that we only need to run one meeting a month.”

Tish: “To begin a youth program.”

Dave: “Reaching out to other clubs for shared shoots and possible competition.”

Steve: Any final comments?

Tish: “It’s a wonderful club!”



L to R Front row: Dianne Olsen, Terry Marksberry, and Tish Benasutti

L to R standing: Chuck Wildzunas, Dave Agnew, Don Fraser, and Jules Jacquin



Seminar Review

Holsters and other Concealed Carry “Thingys”

No, “Thingys” is not a misprint, rather one of Terry Marksberry’s favorite words. That aside, Jim Schiefer presented holsters for various types of guns, from small to larger carry.

Terry Marksberry presented Holsters – Types & Styles. Of course the first slide, “Less Common – On-Body” starts with a photo of a bra holster,



bellybands, underwear holster, to a Glock MIC. This was a great

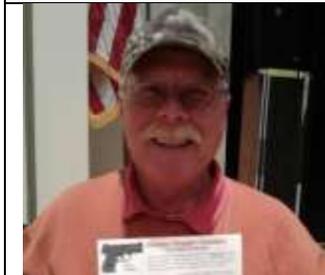
discussion especially for us who don’t even own, but should own a holster. Buying a holster is only the first step (presuming you paid attention to the other slides and bought the correct holster), but then training with subsequent ongoing practice is critical.

February 2018 Donor Appreciation Award



FNS-9 Compact; 3.6” barrel, 6.7” overall length, 23.4oz.



Savannah Meeting	Eisenhower Meeting
Jim Dollins	Jimmy Dunn
	

Congratulations to Jim and Jimmy !

Winchester / NRA Achievements

Looks like lots of people are moving up through the Winchester levels. Here are this month's advancements:



- **Expert:** Raymond Carter, James Crews, Mike Lee, and Daniel McConnell
- **Distinguished Expert:** Jeffrey Atwood

Follow the current standings on the website at [Events | Winchester QP | WMP standings](#).

A well earned Congratulations to All!!

Ocala Sportsman's Association Handgun & Rifle (Outdoor Range)

What's in the water at OSA? Again for the second month we have a tie in one of the sessions. This time it is a **2-way tie**. This just goes to show that **practice produces MORE WINNERS!** Shooter(s) of the Month for March at the Ocala Sportsman Association were:

Session I

Martin Rosenberg



Session II

Don Fraser (L) & Randy Barkley (R)



Congratulations to Martin, Don, and Randy!

Upcoming Club Activities



Shooting Events



All shoots are scheduled by registering on the Club web site. **Consult the website's Activity Signup Page for availability and current event date and time, and links to actually sign up.**

Emeralda Outdoor Range Events:

- **OPEN** Shoots are on the 1st & 4th Tuesday, and 3rd Friday of the month.
- **Beginners** Shoot the 1st Friday, 8:30am. Limited to 8 shooters for more time with an instructor.
- **Bullseye Shooting League** shoots are held at the **Emeralda Outdoor Range** for both Rimfire and Centerfire. If anyone is interested in participating please contact Floyd Dunstan, email dunsail2c@gmail.com, for the details.

All Emeralda events: See the website for current times and directions. Cost \$10 cash; PLEASE try to have the exact amount since making change can be difficult.

OSA is the 4th Thursday of the month at the **Outdoor Sportsman Assoc.** Ocala range held at 8:45 and 11 am. Each session has a handgun and separate rifle range.



Shooters World Indoor Range:

- An **OPEN** Shoot occurs on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:30 am – 12:30 pm. \$30 paid at registration. Schedule is subject to change or cancellation if there are an insufficient number of attendees.
- **Winchester** is currently once a month at Shooter's World in Tampa, generally the 2nd Wednesday of the month.

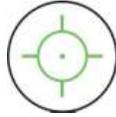
Excursions

The Quarterly Reload trip is coming up on April 19th. The trip includes lunch and 15 and 25 yard pistol ranges, 100 yard rifle range, 360° simulator, and full auto AR-15. Also available for \$10 is a

chance to fire a .50 caliber M107A sniper rifle. It is a unique experience and the recoil is no worse than a 12 gauge shotgun. You should try it.

Next Seminar Meeting

The next Seminar is Wednesday, April 18th which will be a **Gun Cleaning Festival**, 2 - 3:30 pm at Sea Breeze. Cleaning supplies will be available. No one should leave with their gun in pieces; expert help onsite.



This month only, there will be a special seminar on Friday, 13 April from 2-3:30p at the Seabreeze Rec Center. The topic is **Traveling with Firearms**. A review of State laws will follow I-95 going North for the East Coast; I-75 to the Midwest; and I-10 to for the West (though you may have to *unload* to enter CA).



Education Classes

Basic Pistol Safety: April 16th, and May 14th.



Personal Protection I – In the Home: If you desire to take this course, send an email to vss.training.classes@gmail.com. Once there are enough attendees, a class will be scheduled.

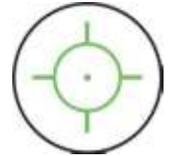
Personal Security II - Outside the Home: April 5th is the last class (full). The next class will be in the November.

New Member Meeting: May 8th, Sep 6, and Nov 1 (Quarterly session).

Register on line at the Club web site. Go to the **Activities tab | Activities Sign-up Page**.

Next Member Meetings

The April meeting topic will be Countering the Mass Shooter Threat.



Savannah Rec Center:
Tuesday, April 17th - 6:45 pm – 8:15 pm. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

Eisenhower Rec Center: Monday, April 23rd - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.

April meeting Donor Appreciation Award at each meeting will be the **Glock 43** – Subcompact 9mm, 6+1, 3.39” barrel, 6.26” long, 4.25” height, 1.02” width, and 22.36 oz. weight



"I am concerned for the security of our great Nation; not so much because of any threat from without, but because of the insidious forces working from within."

– General Douglas MacArthur



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Electronic (PDF) copies of The Reticle available at:

<http://www.vssClub.org/newsletter.html>

Shooter's World Construction Update

Photos as of 23 March 2018

VSS Air Force One took the aerial photos.
Aerial photos courtesy of Club member John Guinta.



Emeralda Outdoor Range. The canopy (box) was replaced with a camouflaged covering which seems to work. It is not easily seen from the air.

