



# The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



To all my fellow Straight Shooters...

Well, here we are; still trying to return to "normal" with so many of us having trouble remembering what "normal" is/was.

We have tried to restart our club excursion program with a bus trip to West Palm Beach for one of the largest gun shows in the State of Florida.... 24 hrs after releasing the announcement, we had 15 members signed up.... WOW! Four days later, we had 15 members signed up! It was beginning to look like we might have trouble filling the 56 passenger bus I had chartered.... Time for "Plan B" we could always charter a smaller bus (36 passenger, the smallest available with a restroom) six days later we had still not made any progress....



Either you were not ready to travel by bus yet, or the prospect of visiting a gun show was not much of an attraction to you. This

trip has been cancelled.

We are constantly looking for activities that are of interest to you, but without your input/feedback, we are "shooting in the dark" PLEASE let us know what you have on your "wish list".

With many of our members heading out in all directions as Summer approaches, it should be easier to make reservations for the programs we offer... jump in and keep the activities filled.

Chuck Wildzunas  
President



## Next Member Meetings



Savannah – March meetings will be combined, so no meeting at the Savannah Rec Center.

Eisenhower – Monday, March 28<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 to 8:00 pm.  
Doors open at 5:30pm.

Donor Award:  
Springfield Hellcat  
9mm, 3” hammer  
forged barrel, two 11+1  
capacity magazines,  
high visibility sights,  
18.3 oz weight.



## March Topic: Traveling with Firearms

## The 2022 SHOT Show

By Terry Marksberry



For the past 43 years, last year being an exception, the firearms industry sponsors the SHOT show in Las Vegas at Caesar’s Palace.

“SHOT” is actually an acronym standing for Shooting, Hunting, Outdoor, Trade Show.



As an industry event, only individuals employed in the industry are invited to attend. Since the many of the invitees are wholesalers and retailers, the manufacturers use the opportunity to announce new products and features.



The Club's February member meeting presentation at Eisenhower Rec Center highlighted some of the more interesting announcements.

The main theme for this year's show was "Year of the Concealed Carry Gun." Consistent with the theme, the most significant announcement was in the ammunition area, strangely enough.

More about that later. First let's consider some of the new carry guns announced.

Palmetto State Armory announced enhancements to its line of Dagger handguns. PSA currently has 15 models of the Dagger at a low starting price of just \$300. The Dagger has a robust set of credentials and looks remarkably like a Glock. For size, it's on the large end of the scale for a carry gun but certainly worthy of consideration.



We will not go through all of the guns mentioned in the presentation, but there are a few worth mentioning.

Mossberg announced the MC1sc a few years ago after specializing in shotguns for over 100 years. They saw the writing on the wall regarding the burgeoning carry market and decided to get a piece of the action. The MC1sc was an excellent intro. At the Shot Show they added the MC2sc to the lineup. The major difference was a double stack mag that made the 8+1 MC1sc into an 11+1 MC2sc. Everything else is pretty much the same.

Consistent with "The Year of the Carry Gun" the most significant announcement was the introduction of the "30 Super Carry" caliber of ammo. The 30SC cartridge diameter is .31 vs .355 for the .380 and 9mm. The smaller diameter round allows for a smaller, more concealable gun, with another 1-2 rounds in a typical magazine.

Virtually all major ammo manufacturers introduced either a 30SC FMJ or HST round. Typical 30 SC is 100 or 115 grains and 1,150 or 1,250 fps muzzle velocity. That yields a kinetic energy of close to 400

ft/lbs, similar to a 9mm. Gel block ballistic tests show the 30SC to have even better target penetration than the 9mm.

Smith & Wesson joined the Federal ammo company as a launch partner introducing the S&W Shield Plus and the



Shield EZ handguns chambered in the 30SC caliber. Both new guns have an increased capacity of 10+1 vs the 8+1 for the 9mm versions of both guns. The new 30SC is reported to be "vastly superior" to a .380 round in performance & stopping power.

In addition to the handguns and ammo, there were several long guns announced as well as several modestly priced rifle scopes and red dots. The Steiner MPS shown here is built with Mil-Spec ruggedness and has an astounding 13,000 hour battery life. Only problem is a price that's about 10x what a quality Red/Green dot sight costs for a typical handgun owner.



Overall, a very successful Shot Show now that we're moving past the COVID issues.

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## Stand Your Ground

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In last month's The Reticle we reported on two bills before the Florida House of Representatives and Senate, HB 73 and SB 888 changing the Florida Stand Your Ground Laws to make them like the New York Stand Your Ground Laws where you must retreat from your own home or property. We are happy to report that both bills did not survive their committee votes and are dead for this legislative session.



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## The Villages Outdoor Expo

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On Friday February 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday February 26<sup>th</sup>, the Straight Shooters Club Board of Directors and other active members manned the VSS booth at the Outdoor Expo. We met many new Village residents who were interested in joining our club. Thanks to everyone who manned the booth and welcome to all new members to The Villagers Straight Shooters club.



### 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)

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### "I CAN'T DECIDE!"

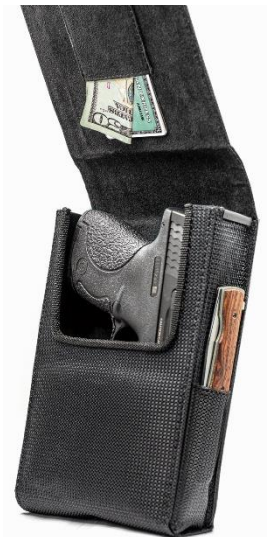
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OK! After I get dressed, I'm on my way out the door for an exciting day in The Villages. What to wear? I know, I'll listen to my (sort-of) trusty TV weather girl and then I'll know exactly what to grab from the closet. "It's going to start off dry - in the upper 40's - but by lunchtime will threaten the high 80's with enough humidity to stun an alligator and by rush



hour, there's a fair possibility of a category 7 hurricane!"

This would already be a considerable clothing challenge to a normal citizen of the Sunshine State. Throw in the fact that, as usual, I'm packing, and now I've got to be concerned with just how I'm going to conceal one of my trusty bang-sticks. All righty then – first I head to the oversized drawer that Marilyn finally let me have to myself (after much heated discussion and pitiful begging). To anyone with a strong sense of order and planning, opening that hellish portal is enough to give them P.T.S.D for some time to come. I, however, know exactly where every variation of holster exists and am perfectly happy with the apparent mayhem. But the problem comes in the selection process. Which one will cover all my needs for the day and remain relatively comfortable under the dicey weather conditions? Oooh, I know! I'll slip on that nifty new one from Sneaky Pete! Not only does it hold your gun, but also your cell-phone, flashlight, tactical pen, credit cards and cash! Ooof! Wow, is that heavy! My pants are threatening to hit the floor and I haven't even loaded the gun yet!



I know! I'll try that skin-tight, spandexy kind of thing I bought a few years ago. Strange...it must have shrunk in the wash. Get it off! Can't breathe – someone call for help!



Maybe my old ankle holster would do. It's got that sheepskin lining so should be nice and comfy for all-day wear. Oy! Marilyn already left. Who's going to help me bend down to put it on – to say nothing of getting up!?

I'll bet you're reading this and think I'm just trying to be funny. But all the above is much closer to the truth than you might imagine. My wife used to be the one who was late to everything, but the more holster selections I have, the later and later I get! And, I'll admit to a strong urge to try all the latest and supposedly greatest in the holster department. They all seem so affordable until you start adding them up! The point I'm trying to make is that there are great advantages to choosing one or two that you find comfortable and will take care of most of your clothing needs for the day and then stick with those. If you do the right thing and practice with the same ones over and over, your draw time will improve dramatically and you'll become much



more proficient at a potentially life-saving maneuver. Also, if the holster is made of leather, it needs time to break in and form to your bod. We don't need to carry around a level

three retention device, but it also shouldn't fall out if you turn it upside down. Otherwise, you're just asking for trouble when you bend down for a can of peas on the bottom shelf at the local Publix. And for God's sake, don't forget a good gun belt. It's got to truly support the extra weight.

With the size of micro-compacts these days, there's a temptation to just stick the gun in your pocket



with your keys and call it a day. Don't ever do that without a pocket holster in place and if you don't take everything else out of that pocket, you're just begging for an accident to happen. Practice will enable you to draw the firearm without

the pocket holster still attached to the gun.

Choosing the right holster is a very important consideration when preparing to leave for the day. Dressing around your gun is always a bit of a pain, but will become easier with planning, consistency and practice.

**I don't carry a gun because I hate the government; I carry a gun because I understand the limitations of government.**



**"By calling attention to 'a well-regulated militia,' 'the security of the nation,' and the right of each citizen 'to keep and bear arms,' our founding fathers recognized the essentially civilian nature of our economy... The Second Amendment still remains an important declaration of our basic civilian-military relationships in which every citizen must be ready to participate in the defense of his country. For that reason, I believe the Second Amendment will always be important." - John F. Kennedy**

### **The Reticle®**

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