



# The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



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## **Member Meeting Recap What You May Not Know**

*By Chuck Wildzunas, Floyd Dunstan, and Jim Schieffer*

The scheduled topic *Florida Firearms: Law, Use & Ownership* has been postponed to a future date due to Terry Marksberry's recovery. Instead, an entertaining yet informative Revised Newcomer presentation by 3 of our club officials covered a review of the club mission, activities, and web site.

Each of the 3 had the audience laughing and applauding during their segments. The presentation will be posted on the website under the PD Academy tab, Member Meeting presentations on the right side.

Great fill in and thank you to our experts for stepping in and keeping the ship going.

### Donor Appreciation Awards

The July award was the Ruger EC9s sub-compact 9mm pistol.

Savannah winner	Eisenhower winner
Thomas Civera	Frank Sheasley
	

*Congratulations to Thomas and Frank!*

## **August Recess**

Every year the Club has taken the month of August off with no meetings or shooting events. However, **this year shooting events at Shooters World will continue in August.** Click the Activity Signup link above to see dates and times and sign up. All other activities are suspended.

## **Terry Marksberry**

Who goes to the doctor complaining about an earache and comes home a week later with a Quadruple Coronary Bypass? Terry of course. He is always doing things BIG! Jestng and ribbing aside, Terry is doing well and as of this writing is beginning to get outside the house (wife Pat now needs some down time). After the kids flew in to be with Terry and Pat, one complained it was a hell of a way to call a family reunion! Continued wishes for his recovery and we are all looking forward to his return in September.

## Next Meeting & Award

The **September** meeting topic will be *Guns of Hollywood – Modern Era, How to Shoot Like John Wick!* Presented by Old West Deputy Marshal Don Fraser.

**Savannah: Thur. Sept 5<sup>th</sup>**, 6:45 – 8:15 pm. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

**Eisenhower: Mon. Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup>**, 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

The September meeting donor award will be a [Ruger 10/22 Takedown](#) Rifle. Click the link for details.

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## Instructor's Corner

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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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## ” TAKE A STANCE”

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I spend an inordinate amount of my time lurking behind our members at the various shooting venues the club patronizes. I'll grant you that might sound a little creepy but rest assured that I only pursue this activity in my official designation as an instructor. There's a lot to see during said "lurk", but more and more I find myself looking down. Other than a copious amount of brass on the ground, just what, you may ask, am I doing staring at the floor?! Well, it just so happens that is where your feet are. And where the feet are, you'll find shooting stances. The variety would boggle your mind. I see more possible positions than at a Bolshoi Ballet. And the configurations are often a far cry from balletic, nor should they be. Let me explain.

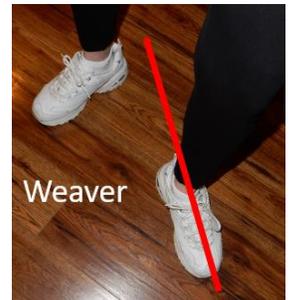


First of all, you tactical types and one-handed bullseye shooters can take a break. Those categories are worthy subjects and deserve their own time in a future scribbling. For now, I'm just going to discuss what most of you do the majority of the time when bringing your handguns to the range. You grab it with two hands and let fly. Unfortunately, little time is accorded your base of operations, the stance. This is a vitally important part of marksmanship and many of our shooters would become much more proficient if they gave the subject a more serious evaluation.

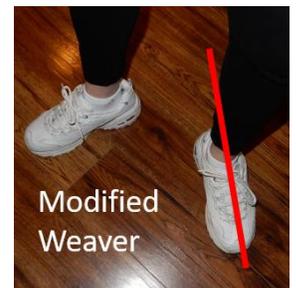
For new shooters and for those unsure of the proper stance, it's often a good idea to go to the **isosceles** triangle position. (See picture).



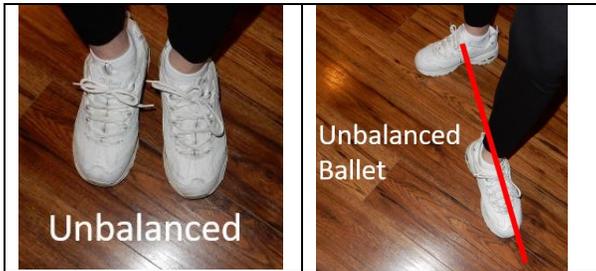
Simply spread your feet comfortably, about shoulder length apart, bend slightly forward at the waist with your weight on the balls of your feet. We're not going to get into grip here, but your shoulders and hands will be forming the triangle part. This is a well-proven and sturdy base from which to begin. You're balanced and in a good shooting position. Some shooters, especially older marksmen who have a longer history with firearms, may prefer their good ole' **Weaver** stance. (See picture).



What has become more popular is a **modified Weaver** stance that provides better all-around balance. (See picture). If you practice any of the above and your results are what you're hoping for on paper, you're probably just fine. It's when I see drastic variations (albeit sometimes amazingly creative) that I simply have to interrupt the proceedings and suggest a better alternative. With some of these stances, a light wind could knock



over the shooter and you know that he or she is spending way too much energy balancing themselves in addition to everything else they should be doing. **(See pictures below).**



A good stance is one of the simpler things any shooter can do to improve their marksmanship. Do a quick self-analysis the next time you get to the range. If everything is done safely (gun is empty – no ammo in the room – muzzle pointed in a safe direction), check yourself out at home to be sure you're in an optimal position for stability and comfort. If you're at all unsure of what's going on down there, turn to one of our friendly instructors for some sage guidance. Take a stance! If you take the time to improve your position when necessary, your shooting will improve.

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## Seminar Review & Schedule

### Ask the Gun Gurus, a Q&A Session

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In a change from Club officials presenting to the members, a panel of Gurus took questions from the members. Panelists Floyd Dunstan, Jim Schieffer, and Steve Mosel and moderator Chuck Wildzunas took questions from the members for 90 minutes. In fact, time ran out otherwise more questions would have been posted.

While the panel answered questions, some of these expanded into a dialogue between the members and panelists.

Alas, it does not have to end there and wait for another year. Our club website has always had and continues with a [Ask the Guru link](#). Submit your

question and it will be forwarded to the appropriate person to answer.

The next Seminar is on Wed., Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 2-3:30p, at Eisenhower. The topic will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> semi-annual gun cleaning festival. Cleaning supplies will be provided.

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## Winchester/NRA Achievements

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Look who is on the move going up through the Winchester levels. Wow! This is a lot of shooters advancing!

<p><b><u>Expert</u></b>                      Richard Christopher                      Steve Lewis                      Carl Kusky                      Ken O'Mara                      Sharon McGinnis                      Jim Mick                      Joe Valentino</p>	<p><b><u>Distinguished Expert</u></b>                      Gary Blaser                      Mark Bolvelsky                      Dan McConnell                      Mary Colligan                      Jim Dunn                      Allen Hartvik                      Steve Hutter                      Ken Macomber                      Edgar Miller                      John Rodier                      Lou Sierra                      Yanni Verikakis</p>
<p><b><u>Distinguished Expert Defensive Pistol I:</u></b>                      Wayne Cross                      Chuck Galloway                      Wesley Merchant                      Chuck Walz</p>	<p><b><u>Distinguished Expert Defensive Pistol II:</u></b>                      Hal Shelton</p>

### A Well-Earned Congratulations to All!!

Follow the current standings on the website or click [Pistol Qualification](#) and [Defensive Pistol I & II](#). If you would like to evaluate and improve your shooting skills, ***join the Winchester program***, sign up [here](#) or via the Activity Sign-up webpage.

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## Education Classes

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- **Build AR-15 class** is 3 hours in classroom and 2 hours on the range to zero optics and check functionality, \$75. Once you have the parts, click [here](#) for assistance in building your AR-15.
- **AR-15 Orientation Training:** Sep 17<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm.
- **Basic Pistol Safety:** Sep 11<sup>th</sup>, 9 am
- **Concealed Carry Qualification:** Sep 17<sup>th</sup>, 9 am
- **Personal Security 1 – In the Home:** TBD
- **Personal Security 2 – Outside the Home:** TBD

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## Shooting Events

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You now have more choices to shoot. We now have shooting events every weekday, Monday – Friday. Your only requirement is to decide event type or day of the week, or indoors/outdoors. This is what the club has worked for, thus we need to use it and obey all the club AND Shooters World rules. Remember that the club provides targets at all club sponsored shooting events. **Go pick something!**



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## OUTDOOR RANGES

### **Emeralda and OSA**

There will be **no OUTDOOR shooting activities during August**. Events will resume in September. Check the club website for dates closer to September.

### **Emeralda**

- **Club Shoot:** This is for anyone who wants to improve your marksmanship or needs some help with grip, sighting, stance, etc. Extra instructors will be available.
- **Steel Target Shoot:** this provides you with a chance to test your skills against others shooting a steel tree.
- **Action Shoot:** shoot while on the move, or from behind a barrier.

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### **The Reticle<sup>®</sup>**

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

## Ocala Sportsman's

**OSA** is the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at the outdoor **Ocala Sportsman's Assoc.** range at 10 am only. Each date has a **handgun** and separate **rifle** range session.



There are no OSA club shooting events in August. OSA shoots resumes on Thursday, September 26<sup>th</sup>.

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## INDOOR RANGE: Shooters World

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- **Bullseye Shooting League**
  - Rimfire Pistol
  - Rimfire Rifle
  - Centerfire Handgun. Sign-up via Activity sheet or if in mid-session, please contact Floyd Dunstan, email [dunsail2c@gmail.com](mailto:dunsail2c@gmail.com), for the details.
  - **All attending shooters MUST be at Shooters World front door by 10 am!!!**
- **Club Shoots at Shooters World:** At Shooters World, the cost is \$20 at registration, but refunded at the shoot IF you show up. No show = no refund (We must give the \$20 to SW). Events: Aug 6, 13, 14, 20, 27 and 28. Some are full, but you can wait list.
- **Winchester Shooting Schedule:** Club Instructors will be on hand to assist. **NOTE:** the entire Winchester Program **MUST** be shot at the scheduled dates at Shooters World through and including Defensive Pistol 1. Scheduled: Aug 9, 14, 16, 23, 28, 30. Most have openings.