



The Reticle



Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship

December, 2016

Gifts for Gun Nuts

Each year about this time, in anticipation of the gift giving holidays, we offer a presentation regarding the year's best, at least the most popular, items for you to consider.

This year we looked at several items:

- Pocket Pistols
- Carry Pistols 9mm
- Target Pistols
- Sights & Accessories

The list of worthy pocket pistols, typically chambered in 380 ACP were, in no particular order:

- Browning 1911-380
- Remington RM380
- Ruger LCP II
- Sig Sauer P238
- Kimber Micro

Street prices ranged from \$299 for the Ruger LCP II to \$650 for the Browning. The barrels were all in the 3" range with manual safeties on the high-end guns. The Sig P238 and Kimber Micro were the easiest to rack, by far, making them very suitable for the ladies.

Since the 9mm carry guns arguably have more stopping power than the 380s, there has been a lot of focus on introducing smaller and smaller 9mm versions of the carry guns. The Sig Sauer P938s and the Kimber Micro 9s are just a tad bigger than their 380 little brothers.



The newer offerings included the Remington R51, Walther PPS M2, and the new compact Ruger American (anything else is just... UnAmerican!) Added to those were the Springfield XDs, S&W Shield, and the ever-popular Glock 43. It's hard to go wrong with any of these choices – just depends on your personal preferences and a few features here and there.

Rounding out the stocking stuffers were a few sights, lights, lasers, and a safe.

There is a host of Red Dots and Lasers to improve your target shooting or self-defense tactics.

On the Red Dots, look for features like two color, red or green, multiple reticles, auto shut-off, and ability to retain zeroing. Prices for a decent sight range widely from just below a hundred, \$200-\$300, and some high range offerings in the thousands.



Lasers can be found for virtually any and every gun. Mounts vary from grips, front accessory rail and top Picatinny rails on the target guns. Definitely go **GREEN**. Easier to see day or night.

Tactical LED lights for accessory rail mounts were the Streamlight TLR-1 HL and the new Surefire X300. Both are new or, at least, new versions of old standards.

The Streamlight TLR-1 has gone from 600 to 800 lumens and the price has been reduced considerably.

The Surefire X300 is new - 600 lumens, grip switch, and reasonably priced at \$202.



Finally, there is a new "high-tech" gun safe suitable for your night stand drawer. It's the Vaultek VT20.

Shown below, it has an amazing range of features at a reasonable price. The Club was able to get a 15% discount for members through the end of December. Get a discount card at the next two meetings that contains the coupon code to enter when you order. Go to their website [HERE](#) to learn more details.



Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year (we're allowed to say that now!!).

PS: If you buy ammo, don't hang the stocking over the fireplace!



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Villages Straight Shooters

December, 2016

MEET THE INSTRUCTORS

By Stephen Mosel

He's everywhere! At least that's what it seems like. The Villages Straight Shooters Manager of Shooting Programs, **Floyd Dunstan**, is surely one of the hardest working members you'll ever meet. In charge of the mega-popular Winchester program – the Ocala and Range 44 Club shoots as well as the Bullseye program, Floyd will stand up in front of a Basic Pistol class in Ocala or be there taking the reins at a Defensive Pistol seminar, a Defensive Pistol in the Home session in Eustis or announcing the awards results at our general meetings. Along with the other instructors and a cadre of loyal assistants, Floyd will be there answering questions and solving all sorts of club-related issues. His patient, low-key teaching style has calmed the fears of countless new students and given solid insights to more experienced shooters as well. Where did all this start?



After plinking and hunting with a 22 in the farmlands of Ohio as a young boy, Floyd enlisted in the United States Marines at the age of nineteen. From Paris Island to Camp Pendleton to the Far East, including two years in Vietnam, he spent a total of twenty two years in the Corp with Force Recon, becoming very familiar with a wide variety of weaponry.



“You are part of the world's most feared and trusted force. Engage your brain before you engage your weapon.” General James “Mad Dog” Mattis



After discharge, and short stints in DEA and the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, Floyd found himself working for the Department of Defense Security Service and subsequently sharpening his teaching skills at the Defense Security Institute. In all, he labored in federal service for twenty years.

After all that, retirement finally beckoned and Floyd answered its siren call by buying a sail boat and, with his wife, Jocelyn, in tow, went sailing for ten years, every once in a while dropping anchor to visit their condo in Virginia. His passion for sailing has remained strong until this day.

They moved to The Villages in 2009. Floyd's interest in shooting – including hunting in Colorado – led him to join the Village Straight Shooters shortly after its inception. (At that time, the membership totaled about 300.)

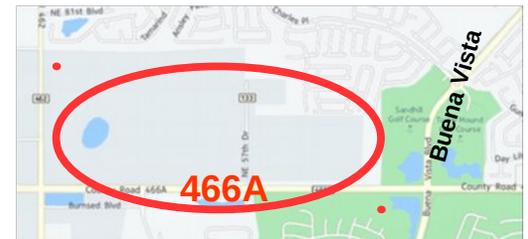
After organizing the Club's Winchester Program and others, Floyd feels confident that VSS has established solid opportunities for the membership but also realizes the need for better resources as we grow. At last count, we have almost 2000 members and there is no sign of slowing down. We can only hope that the new instructors that Floyd inspires, will be as hard-working and willing to go that extra mile to insure that our unique membership is served properly in the future.



New Villages Range Announced!

Well, as the saying goes, “When it rains, it pours!” A few days ago, the Villages-News.com announced that a developer has sought permission from the Wildwood City Commission to build an indoor shooting range as part of the large commercial project just north of 466A and west of the Sandhill Executive golf course.

The overall project is called the “Trailwinds” development.



We have confirmed that this Trailwinds range is **NOT** the Shooters World range scheduled to be formally announced in a week or two. Combined with the “Basics” range on 441 in Lady Lake, we now have 3 (repeat – 3) :-) Villages ranges known to be in some stage of construction.

From a timing standpoint, we only know that the Shooters World range is targeted to open its doors late spring 2017 or early summer. The others are likely to not be far behind.

The Club will be working with the principals of all three ranges to arrange all possible benefits and discounts for VSS members. One range may even be lucky enough to be designated our “Home” range.

Read the Villages-News full article on our website's home page. We plan to keep the Club members fully informed as these projects develop.

“For the mission's sake, for our country's sake, and the sake of the men who carried the Division's colors in past battles — ‘who fought for life and never lost their nerve’ — carry out your mission and keep your honor clean. Demonstrate to the world there is ‘No Better Friend — No Worse Enemy’ than a US Marine.”

General James “Mad Dog” Mattis



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Villages Straight Shooters

December, 2016

Lt. Siemer at the Eisenhower Meeting

Lt. Seimer from the Sumter County Sheriff's office was able to join our last meeting at the Eisenhower Recreation Center on Monday, November 28th. His duties include law enforcement for the Villages community.

He answered numerous questions posed by members regarding concealed carry and home security.



Lt. Siemer commented that the crime rate in The Villages continues to be very low compared to the rest of the county. He was proud to note that, in a spree of parking lot robberies, all of the bad guys had been apprehended.

One of the interesting programs he discussed involved the little box on the podium in front of him. With many aging Villagers, more than a few, are developing Alzheimer's and other mental deficiencies. The police are increasingly asked for help finding individuals that have wandered away from home and have become lost.

Enter the **"Human Scent Preservation Kit."** He remarked about just how incredible their Bloodhound dogs are in tracking people given just a very small sample of their scent. Read the details about this wonderful program at the Sumter Sheriff's office website [HERE](#).



If you would like to participate in this program, please contact:

Villages District Office (352) 689-4600 or SCSSO Headquarters in Bushnell at (352)569-1600.



New RSOs on-board!

Due to the large and increasing number of Club sponsored shooting events, Our Chief Range Safety Officers conducted a class for 10 new RSOs. You may have seen several already prowling up and down the firing line.



They can be identified by their red hats and vests. For the RSOs that most frequently staff our shooting events, the Club decided, for safety, to equip them with "BulletSafe" IIIA body armor.



"The police cannot protect the citizen at this stage of our development, and they cannot even protect themselves in many cases. It is up to the private citizen to protect himself and his family, and this is not only acceptable, but mandatory."

Col. Jeff Cooper



As always, the RSOs have a supply of VSS Club Safety cards with them and also both the .22 chamber flags and the large caliber chamber flags.

The chamber flags are used, of course, at the firing line to show that your firearm is unloaded either during a cold range period or if you have stepped away from the firing line to prepare magazines, etc.

First observations regarding safety concerns from the new RSOs are:

Muzzling – ALWAYS keep the gun pointed downrange.

Trigger – ALWAYS keep your finger off the trigger until you are lined up on the target and ready to shoot.

Encased – Your gun must be in a range bag, gun case, or other such accessory when taking it to and from the firing line.

It does not hurt to review the VSS Club safety card from time to time just to keep the range and gun handling rules fresh in your mind. The RSOs will thank you!





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Villages Straight Shooters

December, 2016

AR-15 Project - Update

We now have several happy new AR-15 owners in the Club! Initially 12 members expressed interest in building an AR-15 rifle. In the past week, seven have received their parts kits and have completed the build using the punches, vices, etc. provided by the Club.

Before beginning the builds, each were provided with almost a three hour video showing detailed step-by-step instructions on how to build your own AR-15 from scratch. The first build took about 3 hours as we established the exact sequence for the build steps and tried to make sense out of the bag of parts in-hand.

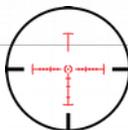


Each of the next six rifles were built in about an hour with just a few minor hiccups. It turns out that installing the small detents and springs can be a little tedious. One slip and both the detent and spring are quickly launched across the garage never to be seen again!

Fortunately, it seems that launching detents and springs is a known problem. Brownells.com sells "oops" kits that contain spare springs and detents. Feels good to know you're not alone when you do stupid stuff!!

We'll certainly see a few more shooters on the rifle range at OSA and even on the excursions.

Now comes the expensive part... buying ammo!



Winchester / NRA Achievements



Attained **Expert** for November: Charlie Bare, Paul Andre, Richard Reynolds, John Holmes, Stanley Officina, Anthony Palazzo, Patricia Worcester

Attained **Distinguished Expert** for November: Paul Andre, Joan Nelson, Miles Johnston



A Hearty Congratulations to All!!

The Raffle Winners!

At the Eisenhower and Savanna Club Meetings on Monday Nov 28th and Monday, Dec 12th the Club raffled off a Browning 1911 380 Semi-Auto pistol.



Roger Rybecki



Stephen Comroe

Congratulations to Roger and Stephen!

Upcoming Club Activities

Excursions

ReLoad Gun Range Shoot – Wed. Jan. 25

National Naval Aviation Museum – Feb 8 & 9 overnight excursion.

Shooting Events

1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays, December 20th, 27th and January 3rd, 10th, 17th Winchester Pistol Qualification shoots at the Gun Range on SR44 in Leesburg. Two sessions, 8-9am & 9-10am. Floyd Dunstan is the Shoot Manager. Cost \$8.

1st, 2nd, & 3rd Fridays, December 16th and January 6th, 13th and 20th Open Handgun shoots at the Gun Range on SR44 in Leesburg starts at 8-9am and 9-10am. Cost \$8. **The 3rd Friday 8am slot is for beginner shooters.**

4th Thursday, December 15th at Ocala Sportsmans Assoc. Handgun and Rifle session are available, Shooter of the Month determined in shoot off. 1st session at 8:45am and the 2nd at 11am. Cost \$10. **Please note the date change.**

Remember eye & ear protection. Adhere to the Club safety rules. If you need a Club safety card or chamber flag, ask an RSO or the Shoot Manager.

Club Membership and Reservations Required for all Shooting Events

Next Member Meetings

Seminar - 3rd Wednesday, Dec 21st at the Sea Breeze Recreation Center from 2-3 pm. Topic will be **Selecting the Right Handgun.**

Thursday Dec 22nd Club Meeting at the Eisenhower Rec Center - 6:30pm – 8:00pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. **Please note the new date.**

Wednesday Jan 4th Club Meeting at the Savannah Center – 6:45pm – 8:15pm. Doors open at 6:00pm. **Note: Parking conflict, please use carts or car pool.**

The Gun Raffle for each meeting will feature a Springfield Armory XD's 9 mm sub-compact pistol.

