



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



President's Corner

Hello Fellow Straight Shooters –

It is hard to believe that a year has gone by since all this Coronavirus-19 madness started. Every one of us has experienced a change in our daily life schedule; some drastic, some moderate, but changes none-the-less. Besides losing happy-hour, changes in our golf scheduling, and availability of our favorite restaurants, how has it affected us as straight shooters? Well, let us take a look at it:

Our meetings have gotten smaller. In 2019 we had 300 – 350 at meetings. Now both Savannah Center and Eisenhower Rec Center have reduced the



maximum occupancy of the rooms we use to about 190 and we have not been filling them even with that limit

since many of our members are choosing not to go out into crowded rooms yet.

Our shooting programs are experiencing the global shortage of ammunition, the cost of which has skyrocketed during the past year. 9mm target ammunition has gone from \$.17/round to \$.55 – \$1.00/round. Our rim fire .22 has gone from \$.04/round to \$.11 - \$.25/round. Our normal source for club ammo has been Target Sports USA. All the ammo the club has been selling has come from them. It is rare to see offerings from them these days and when I do, it is sold out by the time I get on their site (at times less than 3 min after their notice). So, what is our answer to this situation?



The club has invested in a simulator program which hopefully will allow us to hold some semblance of a shooting program. We are currently getting ourselves familiar with the programs and determining capacity. Our biggest problem here is that we need to have a room available on a regular basis in one of the Rec Centers. I have been told that there are currently over 200 clubs which have been activated during the past year which would now like to have a room available for their meetings. Obtaining a once-a-week meeting room for the simulator may take a while.



If you have not read Bill H.R. 127 on gun control, please do... this has been something that in the past we could ignore because there wasn't a chance it could ever get passed.... NOW it is beginning to look like we don't have much of a chance of defeating it UNLESS we let our collective voices be heard. The time for being silent has passed. Look for some guidance from our club Political Action Committee in this edition.

We are looking for suggestions on topics for future meetings and seminars. Please share your thoughts. We cannot respond to each suggestion, but I assure you we are listening.

Thanks for being a Villages Straight Shooter.... See you at one of our next meetings.

Chuck Wildzunas
President



Next Member Meeting

Reservations & Masks Required see the VSS Website for details

Savannah – Friday, February 19th - 6:45 to 8:15 pm

Eisenhower – Monday, February 22nd - 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Topic: Club's Acquisition of Simulator System and Congressman Dan Webster is tentatively scheduled to present his position on Bill HR 127.

**Donor Award:
Rock Island
Armory M1911
A2 .45 cal (10+1)**



CALL

Your Federal Representatives.

On January 4th, 2021 THE DRIVE TO ULTIMATLY CONFISCATE PRIVATE WEAPONS IN THE UNITED STATES HAS STARTED.

The 117th Congress is considering Bill HR 127, introduced by Congressman MS Sheila Jackson Lee (D-TX). Here is the introduction to the bill: “To provide for the licensing of firearms and ammunition procession and registration of firearms, and to prohibit the possession of certain ammunition.”



This bill is known as “Sabika Sheikh Firearm Licensing and Registration Act”. Sabika Sheikh was a Pakistan Exchange Student, one of ten killed in Santa Fe, Texas High School in 2018. The shooter used a 12 ga short barrel pump shotgun and a 6-round revolver. It is interesting that this proposed law does not ban either of these guns and current Texas law was broken by the 17-year-old shooter and his parents by having the son accessible to the guns.

Here is a summary of the HR 127:

- o Mandatory registration of all firearms.
- o Bans any magazine over 10 rounds.
- o Mandatory government provided gun insurance for \$800/year.
- o Mandatory 24-hours of training to get a license and 8-hours to renew every two years.
- o Psychological evaluation of all license gun owners include interviews with household members.
- o Banning military style weapons with a long list of banned features, including barrel heat shields.
- o Establish nation-wide red-flag laws.
- o License requirement to display antique firearms.
- o Bans 50 cal or over firearms and ammunition.
- o Restricts loaning of firearms and ammo to anyone not licensed and the loan must be approved by the Attorney General.

All these requirements will be controlled by a standard established by the Attorney General.

There is nothing in this bill that should be negotiated on, all is trash.

Be respectful and remember “The pen is more powerful than the sword.” Calling is the easiest and quickest method to contact our Representatives. Emails are not accepted by representatives outside of their district, but phone calls are. Here are the phone numbers for our representatives:

President Joe BIDen 202-456-1111
 Congressman Daniel Webster 202-225-1002
 Senator Rick Scott 202-224-5274
 Senator Marco Rubio 202-224-3041
 Please feel free to call other representatives.

Your Political Action Committee

Don't Win the Battle But Lose War!

By Terry Marksberry

So, you've completed basic firearms education, gotten some tactical training, have your CWFL, and have now decided to carry a concealed firearm, at least some of the time. Did you forget anything?

Unless you have at least a million and a half dollars in the bank for a criminal and following civil trial, you probably forgot your concealed carry



insurance! Even though a defensive gun use incident may be the worst occurrence in your life, most people will tell you that the aftermath can be much worse.

First a few statistics. Up until the current era of civil unrest, FBI data shows that around 80% of all confrontations in a public setting are non-lethal in nature, in which case you cannot use your firearm even if you have one. If you even draw your firearm in a non-life-threatening confrontation, you violate the self-defense proportionality rule and are guilty of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. That is five years in the slammer!

In the 20% of cases that involve a defensive gun use, unless you can prove that you were compliant with all five requirements to claim self-defense (see the Laws of Self Defense), you will likely be criminally prosecuted. You will certainly face a civil trial even if not criminally liable.

The cost of a criminal trial is not just the cost of a competent criminal attorney but a host of other expenses that can easily total \$500,000, not counting bond, a civil trial, and potential civil financial penalties.



Bottomline, if you carry don't ever leave home without concealed carry insurance!

A complete list of legal costs associated with a criminal trial are beyond the scope of this article but is lengthy indeed.

Concealed carry insurance companies cover some or even all of the potential expenses depending on the company and the level of coverage you select. A search of the top CC insurance companies yields the following candidates (Hot Links):

- [United States Concealed Carry Association \(USCCA\)](#)
- [CCW Safe](#)
- [US Law Shield](#)
- [Armed Citizens Legal Defense Network](#)
- [Second Call Defense](#)
- [Firearms Legal Protection](#)

Prices generally range from \$130 to \$500 per year depending on the coverage and options you select. A high-level comparison is below:

	USCCA	CCW Safe	US Law Shield	ACLDN	Second Call Defense
Cost	\$22/mo	\$16/mo	\$11/mo	\$12/mo	\$15/mo
Civil Limit	\$500,000	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	\$500,000
Criminal Limit	\$100,000	No Limit	No Limit	No Limit	\$50,000
Bail	\$100,000	\$500,000	No protection	\$25,000	\$5,000
Compensation	\$750/day	\$250/day	None	None	\$250/day

Of course, there is far more detail to consider before selecting which company and what level of coverage to choose.

Having researched all of the above companies, in depth, it is hard to not to



select either USCCA or CCW Safe from the above list. Their policies are comprehensive with a few pros and cons for each. For more info read the article [HERE](#) which favors USCCA. I personally favor CCW Safe and have their Ultimate Package. BTW, both websites are outstanding. Also, USCCA has a great monthly magazine. Go to the above linked websites, do your homework, and make your own decision. If you carry, just don't leave home without CC insurance.

What's a Ghost Gun?

By Terry Marksberry

No, it has nothing to do with Halloween!

“Ghost Gun” is a term popularized by gun control advocates but increasingly adopted by gun lovers too — because it's an untraceable, semiautomatic rifle, with no serial number, existing beyond the government's knowledge and control.



Based on the recent elections and the Left's promised attack on the AR-15, a ghost gun is probably something that would be nice to own now. If you want one, you will most likely have to make a move very quickly.

To start, you'll need to order an AR-15 80% lower receiver. The 80% means that the receiver has not been completed and is not recognized as a firearm by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms (BATF). As such, it has no serial number and can be shipped directly to your home without going through an FFL and a background check.



The 80% lowers come in different color finishes,



but you'll find that currently most all suppliers are out of stock except for the “raw,” bare

aluminum finish. The look is not bad, but certainly better than nothing.

You can get a raw lower anodized, but you'll probably find that most gun shops will not anodize a lower that does not have a serial number.

NOTE: Optionally, when you purchase your 80% lower, you may buy it pre-engraved with Fire/Safe, a Serial Number, or other logos of your choosing for a modest up charge.

You can color the completed lower yourself. Checkout Duracoat, Aluma Hyde II, & Ceracoat.

To buy an 80% lower, start at the sites below:

- tacticalmachining.com – raw in stock
- 80percentarms.com – all backordered
- 5dtactical.com – all backordered
- 80-lower.com – some available
- daytonatactical.com – totally out

Once you have an 80% lower, it needs to be finished. To finish the receiver, the trigger chamber must be milled out and holes drilled for the trigger and hammer pins, and for the selector switch.

Finishing requires a jig to do the job without damaging the lower.

Some suppliers will sell a lower with a jig, however, the jigs are frequently one-time use and easily damaged, resulting in a damaged lower.



The BATF, to discourage the 80% option forbids taking the 80% lower to a machine shop or even borrowing their equipment. They also forbid going

to a friend's house and using their tools. They want you to have to buy all the jigs and tools to make it cost prohibitive. However, they do not, and cannot, prevent you from buying a used jig and equipment from another individual. To save some money, there are used jigs for sale on the internet and there may be local individuals that are finished completing their lower and may sell their jigs. You will also need a hand drill or drill press and a router.

It is against the law to buy an 80% lower, with the



intent of finishing it, and then selling it to another person. Some states have also passed other laws regarding serial numbers, etc. Be sure you know any relevant laws in your state.

Once your 80% lower receiver is finished, you can proceed to purchase a standard lower parts kit and a complete upper receiver to complete your AR-15 custom build.

Look on the club's website, or better yet, attend the AR-15 Orientation class to gain the information needed to make better informed decisions about what exact components to buy.

In the end you will have a ghost gun you can be proud of and even take to the range on October 31st, except you most likely will not want to wait that long!!

"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



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)



"WHAT WAS OLD IS NEW AGAIN!"

Way back in the pre-dawn age of The Village Straight Shooters, (about seven years according to the dusty historical archival records) we ran "Ladies Only" classes. Not having a death wish or being stupid enough to teach my own wife, Marilyn, how to drive, I wasn't about to attempt the truly hazardous and teach her how to shoot! So off I packed her to Ocala (where the Club rented a classroom and range at the time) and gave her up to the trusted tutelage of Floyd Dunstan, Jim Schiefer and some lady whom I can't recall just now.

Although, according to my beloved, it was a stellar class, the number of students applying simply did not justify the Club continuing the specialized nature of that particular

endeavor. Zoom ahead with me now to modern times and the reawakening of that noble pursuit, as we find ourselves with a much healthier percentage on the distaff side

(about one-quarter of our membership!), therefore inspiring the Shooting Programs department to establish a new "Ladies Only Shoot".



I realized that getting past the well-guarded doors of this private offering at a scheduled Friday shoot would prove daunting; however, I was able to convince Floyd Dunstan, the Manager of Shooting Events that I was there for all the right reasons. Due to the efforts of the Event Manager, Marilyn McCabe-Primeau, our recently retired nurse and instructor, Colleen Rutherford, and a slew of our usual expert and friendly instructors, all of whom are NRA Certified Instructors and Range Safety

Officers, the Ladies Only Shoot was a rousing success! With enough instructors present, the event was practically a one-on-one opportunity for those attending to have their own private instructor for the duration. Afterwards, the group was offered the chance to retire to the Shooter's World Café for a Q&A debriefing and all-around informative chat – a nice touch! There was even the offer of a more in-depth session that would include the basics of everything handgun, to be given at the Eisenhower Recreation Center at a soon-to-be published time and date. Keep your eyes open for the announcement.



I asked several of the attendees why they were attracted to the idea of a ladies-only event and the answers were varied. Some thought that at a regular Instructional Shoot, they'd be intimidated by the more experienced men "staring at their targets and judging how they did." Others simply wanted the camaraderie of other women. None were at all concerned that their instructor might be a man and, in one case, preferred it. Many agreed that women often learn in different ways than men and enjoy more "give and take" with the instructors along with the opportunity to ask as many questions as necessary. Getting comfortable and confident with their handguns was a prime consideration. Many of the shooters had measurably improved by the end of the session, which is always gratifying for the instructors involved. Hopefully, everyone attending should understand that they are all welcome to also attend any of our Instructional Shoots, as they will not be intimidated and will be taught by the very same instructors, they enjoyed at the Ladies Only Shoot.

The Ladies-Only Shoot will be offered on alternating Fridays at Shooters World. Our goal is to provide a safe and friendly environment where our lady club members will learn firearm safety and the fundamentals of marksmanship and also develop

the confidence to safely handle and operate their firearms. A sufficient number of certified NRA instructors will be in attendance to provide individual instructions to the attendees. As one of the ladies put it after the shoot: "And a good time was had by all!"

"The Constitution shall never be construed to prevent the people of the United States who are peaceable citizens from keeping their own arms." – Samuel Adams

Join Our Club Online
VSSCLUB.ORG

Two Monthly Member Meetings

Member Meetings are held monthly at the Eisenhower Rec. Ctr. and the Savannah Ctr.

Member Meeting Content includes gun news, Club activities schedule, marksmanship awards, informative & professional presentations.


Donor Appreciation Awards given, **including a gun**, at every member meeting.




NRA & CMP Affiliated

SHOOTERS WORLD IS OUR "HOME" RANGE

Learn More at VSSCLUB.ORG
Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Villages Straight Shooters
Visit Our Amazing Website - www.vssclub.org



Numerous Member Benefits

- MVP Athletic Club Corporate Discounts
- 2 Firearms Awarded to Members Monthly
- Monthly Newsletter
- Ask the Gun Gurus
- Laser Bore Sight Loaners
- AR-15 Education & Support Pgms

Shooting Activities
Our Club's home range is Shooters World. We reserve a shooting bay every weekday. Come Join the Fun!

- Ladies Only Shoots
- Instructional Shoots
- Bullseye Shooting Leagues
- Team Shooting Events
- NRA Marksmanship Program
- Dueling Tree Steel Shoots – Outdoors
- Steel Competition Shoots - Outdoors

Villages Straight Shooters Club

Was Founded in 2012 with the intent of forming a group of friends interested in firearms, shooting together and supporting the 2nd Amendment. Little did we know there are so many Villagers with like interests. We are now one of the largest Villages Lifestyle Clubs

NRA Range Safety Officers and Certified Instructors are present at all shooting events. Targets provided.

Monthly Educational Seminars
3rd Wednesdays - 2:00 to 3:30 pm at the Eisenhower Recreation Center.

The Reticle[©]

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Electronic (PDF) copies of The Reticle available at:
<http://www.vssclub.org/newsletter.html>

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February 2021

Page 6 of 6