



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Shooters World Update

As of 30 April, the county granted a permit to proceed with actually building a structure. No pictures this month, but will resume next month when something different can be shown.

MEMBER MEETING Recap

By Terry Marksberry



At both April meetings, a powerful presentation on Active Shooter Events (ASE) was presented. Who are these people? Is the AR-15 the only thing we need to worry about? And how we react during an ASE?

The presentation was divided into two main sections. Part 1: What Not To Do and Part 2: What You Can Do.

The preface addresses the ASE details, magazine capacity controversy, what other types of guns have been used, Gun-Free Zones, victim responses, universal background checks, and Terrorists & No Fly lists.



First up, What Not to do!

The presentation is based on data, some definitions and trend analysis and the Threshold of Violence Theory, which is the measure of social process of ASE which encourages copy cat attacks.

The events by location might surprise you. The publicity is mostly on school shootings, but that is not the largest location type.

Another is Event Resolution, that is, how did the event end. Only 31% were by Law Enforcement.



Suicide was the largest outcome. You might be surprised that 15% were resolved by the victims, something you rarely hear about in the news. The Police just cannot make it to an event site quick enough to stop it in the early moments.

Magazine capacity: the short version is that prohibiting larger magazines are not likely to stop the events or extent of victims. A case can be made that larger magazine capacity may terminate an ASE simply because the gun jams and most of the shooters are not skilled in use of the gun and quickly reloading.

Next is the type of gun. Listening to the news media, you could believe that the AR-15 is the only weapon used. However, most are hand guns and even then the Virginia Tech ASE shooter used a .22 caliber handgun.



Gun Free Zones: do they really prevent an ASE? Up to 85% of the ASEs are in gun free zones. Mass shooters seek them out because, well, there are no guns there to shoot back!

Does fighting back make a difference? Yes!



Previously we mentioned that 15% of the victims fought back. However, the percentage could be higher if you include

those who fought back by barricading themselves until help arrived. In other words, you need to know what to do. More on this later.

Universal Background Checks: there is a clamor to plug the holes. There are few ways to legally purchase a gun without a background check. One is a private party sale, yet not one of the 50 ASEs since Columbine did the mass shooter obtain the guns this way. Another proposal is to prohibit anyone on the Terror Watch and No-Fly list from purchasing a firearm. Well, of the 1 million people on the Terriost Screening Database (TSDB), only 81,000 are on the No-Fly list (as subset of the TSDB). There seems to be no or few guidelines as to who is put on the list and how to get off if you were put on it. The Government keeps this a closely guarded secret. Yet, none of the mass shooters were on these lists.

Part 2: What You Can Do

To counter a threat, know the signs as discussed in the presentation. There are direct and indirect indicators including social media postings that can forwarn a potential ASE.

Here is an interesting discussion: Run, Hide, Fight – this is what we are all told to do.



However, this is not a linear sequence. Depending on what

happens when you are directly involved, it might be Fight, Run, Hide. Remember fighting back can include barricading yourself and others from the mass shooter. Fight back early in a ASE can stop it reducing victims and saving yourself.

How many of us practice shooting at a moving target? Going to ReLoad and practicing in the simulator will open your eyes. Hence the Inverse Square Law used in physics and real life. Running puts distance between you and the shooter making it harder to be hit. Running laterally or diagonally also makes it harder to be shot. Hiding: there is a right and wrong way to do this as noted in the presentation.

Lastly, fighting back with whatever you have at your disposal. Pause a moment to look at your surroundings and you may be surprised what can be used as a weapon to fight back if you are not carrying a firearm.



Finally, what else can you do. The Club is forming the VSS-LAC or *Legislative Action Committee* and already has 6 volunteer members. The Committee is to focus attention on the 2nd Amendment, anti-gun initiatives, convey facts and dispel incorrect assumption, and project a rational discussion. Their first meeting will be in May.



The actual presentation and brochure are posted on the website under the **Education Tab | Meeting & Seminar presentations** and on the Home page under the What's New Section (upper right) along

with a link to the VSS-LAC mission and means to contact the committee.



INSTRUCTOR'S CORNER

By Stephen Mosel

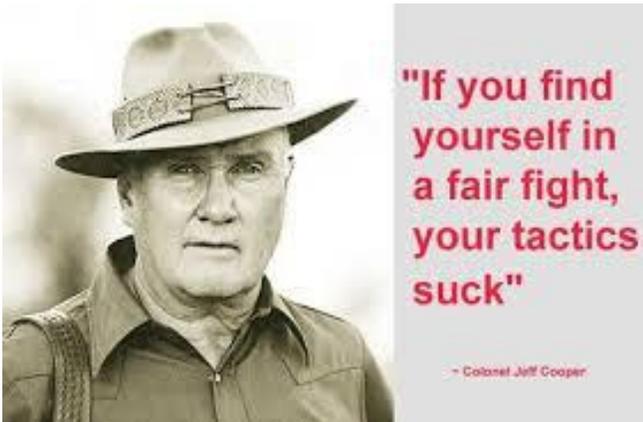
(These articles are the opinions of the writer only and in no way reflect official positions of the Village Straight Shooters - or anyone with good sense for that matter - SM)



"IMPULSE BUYING"



I recently read a piece in Guns & Ammo magazine



and loved their re-print of a quote from Jeff Cooper, the storied firearms trainer and founder of Gunsight Academy.

It goes like this:

“Whenever I’m asked my opinion of a gun that a correspondent has already bought, I feel obliged to tell him that it is simply marvelous. Asking a consultant what he thinks of a product you already own is rather like asking a marriage counselor what he thinks of a girl you have already married.”

At VSS club functions, we often get the same question asked after the shooter has already bought their new toy. Sometimes, it’s in spite of our advice to wait until all the pieces are in place for a proper purchase. There are a host of bad reasons to buy a gun too quickly. Some of the most often invoked include:

- “It was the last one in stock and looked cool.”
- “Even though I wasn’t quite sure, the salesman convinced me it was the best choice for me.”

- “My husband bought it for me.”
- “One of the Club instructors carries that model.”

That last one really gets to me. Buying a particular gun because an instructor uses it or you’ve seen a professional shooter win a match with one makes about as much sense as buying a particular set of golf clubs because Jordan Spieth won the Masters with it. You’re NOT Jordan Spieth! That’s one of the reasons we carefully explain at our Basic Pistol classes that any guns we discuss in a positive light are just our personal takes and not meant to be a recommendation to run out and buy it. Besides, there are a slew of factors that go into picking the right gun for you. I’ll paraphrase from an article I wrote for this column for the December, 2017 edition. It lists some of the factors that should go into the decision to buy:



- ✓ Is the caliber and model correct for the purpose intended?
- ✓ Can you handle the recoil and get back on target quickly?
- ✓ Are you familiar with all the features of the gun?
- ✓ Can you afford it?
- ✓ Are holsters and other accessories available for this model?
- ✓ Do you have the strength and technique to rack the slide and pull the trigger?
- ✓ Have you rented or tried out this model?
- ✓ Will this gun just sit in a drawer or will you train with it?
- ✓ Have you seen reviews or spoken with other owners of this model?
- ✓ Does it feel good in your hand and point naturally?
- ✓ Does the weight of the firearm feel right for its intended purpose?
- ✓ If it’s meant for carry, can you comfortably conceal the firearm?

- ✓ Is it easy for your eyes to pick up the factory sights on this gun?

I can't count the number of times I've been guilty of impulse buying over the years. And yes, it used to include firearms. But I regretted enough of those shopping excursions that when buying guns, at least, I don't do it anymore. It's just too important a purchase, as tempting as it might be. So, until you've done your due diligence and have good reasons to buy that new toy leave your cash and credit cards in the car before entering a gun shop and enjoy the window shopping!



New Reservation System arrives!

By Roger Marksberry

The Club has been searching for a reservation system to replace EventBrite since October when a feature / pricing restructure forced our search for an alternative. Regpack, the system targeted to launch May 2nd, comes with a more flexible and friendly interface for members and meets the Club's needs.

Regpack Will Look and Feel Like Any Web Based Store

The "Activities Signup Page" will continue to be utilized and become the only page presented when you click on the "Activities" tab of the Club's website, vssclub.org. You will navigate to each activity's detailed web page through the "Activities Signup Page".

Start With "Activities Signup Page"... To Web Page Info... To Regack for Signup

You will enter the Regpack / Straight Shooters reservation environment when you click to sign up for an Activity from any Activity detailed web page. Only VSS Members will have login credentials. It will feel more like a typical online

store, only you will be shopping for VSS Activities. When you select Activities they will be placed in your cart. You will check out like any other web base store. All fees related to any Straight Shooters activity will be paid at checkout by credit card or eCheck.

Only Members Will Have Passwords to Log Into Regpack

Sometime from April 29 through May 1st you, as a VSS Member, will receive an email disclosing your Regpack password. You will log in with your email and the password provided. Once logged in you may change the password to your own. Hopefully, the new system will be more logical and intuitive, making Activity Sign Up easy.

All Activity Fees Will Be Paid Through Regpack When Making Reservations

Launch target date is May 2nd. A Club wide email will be sent when we go live. Monique Robitaille and I will be very busy with system conversion from Eventbrite and dealing with any issues identified by members after launch. So, please understand we will be addressing all post launch issues reported by members. However, we may not have the time to reach back to you personally.

Please report any post launch Regpack system problems to: reservations.sys@vssclub.org.

"Foolish liberals who are trying to read the Second Amendment out of the constitution by claiming it's not an individual right or that it's too much of a safety hazard don't see the danger of the big picture. They're courting disaster by encouraging others to use this same means to eliminate portions of the Constitution they don't like."

- Alan Dershowitz





Seminar Review

There were two seminar sessions in April. **First,**

TRAVELING WITH FIREARMS

All 3 are posted on the web site under the tab **Education** | **Member Meeting & Seminar Presentations** link

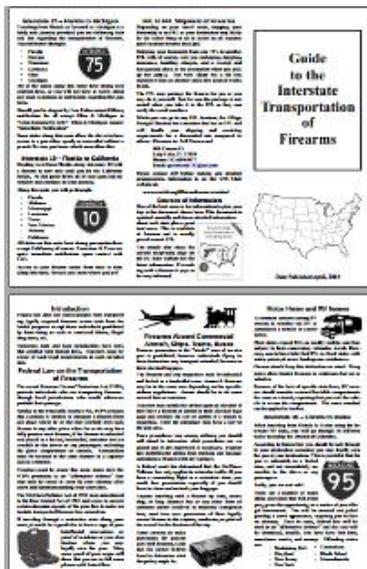
Traveling with Firearms presentation (62 slides)



Concealed Carry Map (12 pages from USCCA)



Traveling with Firearms Brochure (1 sheet, double sided)



Second,

THE SEMIN-ANNUAL GUN CLEANING SESSION

Reports from the field indicate all attendees left with their guns fully reassembled and avoided leaving a trail of parts out of the Recreation Center.



April 2018 Donor Appreciation Awards



Glock 43, 9mm sub-compact, 3.39" barrel, 6.26" length, 4.25" height, 1.02" width, 22.36 oz. weight, 6+1



This month we had two winners at each member meeting consisting of the usual gun winner, but also a basket containing an annual Shooters World membership.

The winners are:

Savannah Meeting

Eisenhower Meeting

GUN

Kenneth Richards

Gary Smith



Shooters World Membership

Terry Kimmel

Eugene DaCorte



Congratulations to Kenneth, Terry, Gary and Eugene!

Editor note: For future guns award recipients, please know that Nordic is closed on Wednesdays. Also, don't show up the first thing in the morning. Sometimes a club volunteer member has to return the gun and case to Nordic first.

Winchester / NRA Achievements

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



- **Expert:** Kenneth Hamann, Garry Kolb, Fernand Thomassy, and James Weber
- **Distinguished Expert:** James Crews and James Webber
- **Defensive Pistol I, Distinguished Expert:** Michael Blatti, Norman Long, Ed Pack, Jon Popp and Greg Simons

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

Well earned Congratulations to All!!

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

WINNERS! It appears our club members are getting better. **Once again we have multiple winners per session.** Shooter(s) of the Month for April at the Ocala Sportsman Association were:

Session I

Martin Rosenberg & Robert Van Iderstine



Session II

Randy Barkley & James Veitch



Congratulations to Martin, Robert, Randy, and James!



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

No current Excursions are scheduled during May. The next projected date for a ReLoad trip is July, but keep checking the calendar.

Speaking of a ReLoad trip, take a look at the last page for photos of the Sept. 2017 trip.

Next Seminar Meeting

The next Seminar is Wednesday, May 20th which will be how to use the new reservation system, 2 - 3:30 pm at Sea Breeze. Cleaning supplies will be available.

Education Classes

Basic Pistol Safety: May 14th, Jun 13th, Jul 18th.

New Member Meeting: May 8th, Sep 6, & Nov 1

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

Next Member Meetings

The May meeting topic will be Identity Theft.

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

Eisenhower Rec Center: Monday, May 28th - 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. The club's annual Director and Officer Election will be held.

May meeting Donor Appreciation Award at each meeting will be the **Ruger Mark IV Target.**

The latest version of the classic Ruger .22 caliber Mark series which is easy to disassemble to clean. Bull barrel 5.5", 35.6 oz weight and two 10 round magazines.



"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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Managing Editor, Steve Gianelos,

vssnewsletter@gmail.com

Layout & Design, Mike Plocharczyk

Electronic (PDF) copies of The Reticle available at:

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

RELOAD VISIT, SEPT. 2017

A sampling of what ReLoad is about if you have not been there.

Shoot your own rifle



AR-15 shooting is not just for guys



Shoot your own pistol



AR-15 ejected case



Shoot .50 caliber sniper rifle



Use the 300° simulator; night scene



Shoot an AR-15: single or full auto



So much to do there, it can wear you out

