



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Unrelated but informational: **NEW MEDICARE cards are arriving.**

New Medicare cards with new numbers and NOT social security numbers are now being mailed to residents in Florida. Please note that while some of you may have received yours, it will take a full month for everyone to receive theirs. Also, mailing dates may be different for spouses.

Log onto your Medicare account to see if YOUR card has been mailed. If you have not received yours, it will show up on your online account for tracking purposes.

Shooters World Status



The Shooters World Welcome Center is open in Brownwood. The phone number is 352-750-4867. It is located at 2666 West Torch Lake Drive. This store is across the road and west of the Golf Cart Store. The store will be open until the full range opens, and may be extended into December if it can help take the initial load off the range opening.

BTW, did you know that Shooters World Tampa is on the 10 best shooting ranges in the USA? This is according to a survey conducted by The Washington Times.

The list of the 10 Best Shooting Ranges:

1. Sand & Sage Rifle and Pistol Club, Garden City, KS (outdoor; 7 lanes)
2. Machine Gun Vegas (MGV) (indoor r)
3. Las Vega Gun Garage (10 indoor lanes)
4. Waterloo, NY Rifle & Pistol Club (private indoor and outdoor for member)
5. Scottsdale Gun Club in AZ
6. Top Gun Shooting Sports, Arnold, MO (long range sharpshooting)
7. Silver Eagle Group, Ashburn, VA (indoor 22,000 sq ft multi-level; 30 lanes (20 at 25 yd lanes and 10 at 50 yd)
8. Elm Fork Shooting Sports, Dallas, TX. (clay, skeet, trap, 2 100-target sporting clay courses, 50-target dove course, private tactical bay)
9. Shooters World, Tampa (long range sharpshooting).

However, it doesn't stop there! Shooters World was recently named the 2017 NRA Retailer of the Year (picking up the award later this month). Also, they were the NSSF Range of the Year in 2015.

So where are we with The Villages Shooters World? Well, moving along quite well. The Founders Membership drive is now completed and Shooters World is pleased with the VSS membership response. Our Club has signed up at least 485 new SW members who primarily want to participate in Club activities, but also become members of SW for individual shoots. There are still Club members who are taking an 'I'll try it first' approach which is reasonable. We also know there are still others in The Villages who never plan to join as a member, but are still looking forward to being able to have a quality range to occasionally shoot.

The current discount structure is as follows:

- The discounted waived \$100 initiation fee offer expired on 8/31/2018 and is no longer available.
- SW will continue the VSS discount of \$100 off Silver and Gold memberships and 25% off of Platinum and Diamond until further notice.
- Patriot discount is \$100 off and applies to Gold, Platinum, and Diamond Memberships only. It does not apply to the Silver Membership.
- Patriot discount applies to Military, Law Enforcement, First Responders, and School Teachers.
- Patriot and VSS discounts cannot be combined.

Although hard to imagine at this point, there will be ample parking slots for both cars and golf carts with over 3 parking spaces per shooting lane.

Shooters World Villages (SWV) will be working with the VSS Club to finalize a schedule of Club shooting events. Stay tuned. Additionally:

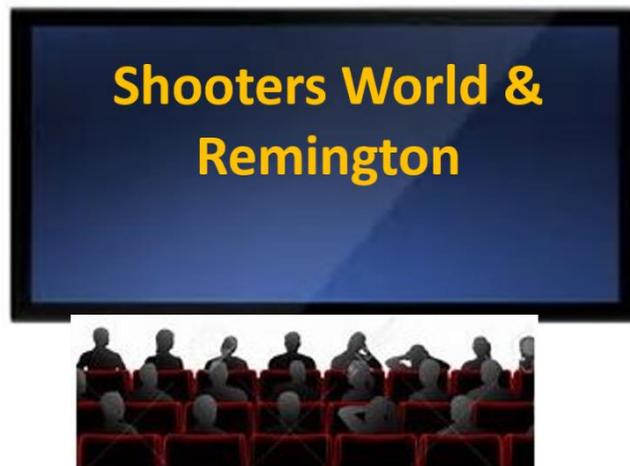
- SW Villages will begin the hiring process in early October.
- Hours for the Range have not been finalized but 7am-9pm Monday-Friday, 7am – 9pm Saturday and 10am -7pm Sunday is the tentative plan right now.
- Visit Shootersworld.com for a list of available training classes. There are 34 training courses offered at the Tampa location, courses will also be phased in at The Villages range. Private lessons are also available for most of these courses.
- Training class discounts are tied to membership level.
- Members can expect an update email from us by the end of next week with info on member Shooters World shirts and hats as well as scheduling for the custom ear molds.

Some of the latest photos are attached at the end of this newsletter.

Alas, a new quality shooting range is in sight!

MEMBER MEETING

Presented by Terry Marksberry



The July meeting focused on The Villages Shooters World range and a presentation on Remington, an iconic American gun manufacturer.



Presented was the then recent release of memberships and discounts for Straight Shooters Club members. Since then, a seasonal version was released in August.

Remington®

In an ongoing series of presenting manufacturers, Terry reviewed Remington History and Products.

The history and products are easily viewed by downloading the presentation on our website by going to the tab Education | Meeting & Seminar presentations or click this link:

<https://www.vssclub.org/meeting--seminar-presentations.html> .

If you go to the Remington website and the About Us section (or click here

<https://www.remington.com/about-us>), scroll down and there is a nice slide-show commenting on the milestones throughout its history.

Remington began in 1816 making flintlocks which were in high demand after placing 2nd in a shooting match.

In 1828 they moved to Ilion, NY (seemed like a good place at the time).

By 1873 they were into typewriters; 1912 cutlery (pocket knives).



Remington also produced some of Springfield's 1903 30-06 rifles to handle increased demand before and during WWI. Springfield and Remington's 1903 model was highly prized for accuracy which was something new in WWI trench and gas warfare, and continued for decades as an excellent sniper rifle.

Sometime after the Great Depression started, Remington decided to focus on the civilian hunting market and was purchased by DuPont (founded in July 1802) with its improved gunpowder. Did you know that most of the early DuPont family members were killed in accidents trying to perfect their gunpowder? Since Remington was in the business of making ammo, in 1940 the U.S. Army asked them to run ammo and ordinance plants in preparation of war should it come to our shores.

In 1950 they introduced the Model 870 shotgun which is still in production today.



As mentioned, Remington's manufacturing plant was in NY. Unable to continue in NY's environment, in 2014 they opened operations to Huntsville, Alabama even though the headquarters remains in NY.

In 2016, Remington celebrated its 200th Anniversary in the gun business as "America's Oldest Gunmaker".

In 2018, they filed for bankruptcy, but emerged a few months later, thus preserving the company to continue its legacy.

A Perfectly Good Glock By Don Fraser

Gaston Glock assembled a group of firearm experts and engineers in 1982 to produce a handgun to compete for an Austrian Army contract. Winning a military procurement contract has been an important step for success in the firearms industry for decades. Several samples of the 9 x 19mm Glock 17 were submitted for extensive testing. The 17th patent earned by Glock became the name for the handgun that eventually won the Austrian contract over offerings by

Heckler & Koch, FN Herstal, Sig Sauer, and Beretta. Now in their 5th generation with multiple versions and calibers, Glocks remain favorites with armed services, police forces, and civilian shooters around the globe.



Depending on who is counting, a Glock handgun fresh from the factory will include around thirty-four parts. And, fresh from the factory, you will own a firearm that is unlikely to win any beauty contests, but is also unlikely to fail to fire when you need it the most. So, given a reliable self-defense tool, why would anyone want to make any changes? The short answer, of course, is because you can. The long answer is that modifying, upgrading, changing, or personalizing anything may be a part of our DNA. Don't believe me? Just look at golf carts in The Villages - like snowflakes, no two appear the same, there are mods and personalization's galore.

Slide locks, mag releases, sights, barrels, trigger mechanisms, recoil springs, slide cover plates, mag base plates, firing pin safeties, and firing pins are just about a third of the parts you can change on your Glock handgun and still have it look like a

Glock. Many of these changes are very simple and don't require a gunsmithing internship to accomplish. But what if these changes don't satisfy that DNA urge to make changes to a perfectly good Glock? If it ain't broke, don't fix it need not apply. Let's look at a completely different level.



This is the CAA Micro Roni Stabilizer (insert your macaroni jokes here). Your entire Glock 17, 19, or their .40 caliber cousins fit inside this polymer frame. Add optics, lasers, flashlights, and 33 round magazines and you've got yourself a range toy like no other. This Roni version still qualifies as a pistol so no additional NFA requirements apply. There are other Roni versions which are classified as short barrel rifles and NFA requirements DO apply. Roni frames are also available for some Smith & Wesson, Beretta, Sig Sauer, and H&K handguns.

A nice feature of this set up is that you can simply remove your Glock from the Roni frame and you are back to plain vanilla and a perfectly good Glock.



A Glock 17 with a factory 33 round magazine simply inserted into a CAA Micro Roni.

You can learn more about the CAA Micro Roni here:

<https://www.yrsinc.com/en/micro-roni-stabilizer>

See you at the range!



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)



"RECLINER RECREATION"



My wife, Marilyn, finds it exasperating that I plead with her to watch some stupid TV program I just know will be fascinating and then promptly fall asleep during the viewing. But what you have to understand is, it's not my fault – it's the chair! These things are designed to take the most alert and awake person in the room and transport them, willingly or not, into the arms of Morpheus. It's impossible to resist – so I don't. When some evil genius added the capability of a flip-up foot



support and being able to make the diabolical thing vibrate, all bets we're off. What, you may ask, does all this have to do with shooting? Well, if Marilyn glances my way while I'm sitting there – trying to catch me sleeping I may add - and I haven't yet pushed the magic, "make-me-even-more-comfortable" buttons to get my feet up and start my world vibrating, she'll find me surrounded by all sorts of firearms-related knick-knacks and doo-dads. As it turns out, even though my IQ is about akin to a bowl of soup, even I figured out that you can get in a surprising amount of useful training and education while reclining (as long as you can remain conscious). Below are some of my Lazy Boy shooting activities that will help to improve your functioning when it's time to pull the trigger.

TRIGGER CONTROL AND IRON SIGHTS

“Laserlyte” makes a terrific and affordable (about \$150.00 on

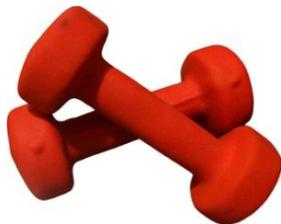
Amazon the last time I checked) training pistol (model LT-TTL) which is modeled after one of two popular Glock sizes. You don’t



need to spend the extra dollars for their electronic targets as almost anything will do. I practice shooting everything in sight from my easy chair perch – my favorite being light colored candles because they glow a little when you hit them with the laser. If the laser shows up as a pinpoint red dot on your target, you’ve managed your trigger well. If, however, you get a smeared red line, you’re probably yanking the trigger a bit and there’s room for improvement. The work you get practicing with traditional iron sights is invaluable and doing this exercise daily can prove remarkably productive. One note of caution: Don’t get too comfy as it doesn’t help your shooting stance a bit. Every once in a while, as inconvenient as it may be, make the effort to stand up and do it right.

STRENGTH TRAINING

One of those nasty rumors you hear about aging is that we lose strength as the decades roll on by. It’s an important subject potentially affecting much of what we do while shooting and I’ll probably devote an entire future article to the matter. But for the purpose of this scribbling, I’ll let you know that I keep a set of light dumbbells, stretch cables and a rubber ball next to the recliner. Every day that I’m home, I make time to do hand strength and finger isolation exercises with the rubber ball and light dumbbell repetitions. I’ll admit to standing up for safety reasons when using the stretch cables, with the comforting knowledge that my trusty chair is there to catch me each time I collapse in exhaustion



from the “effort”. Marilyn has long since left the room shaking her head, disgusted by the fact that I bring it to her attention that I’m exercising, in order to prove that I’m awake.

EDUCATION

The Boob Tube has improved immeasurably in its quality of content in the past few years. Although most “Reality TV” has done its level best to pull that optimistic assessment down, firearms folk can benefit greatly from checking out the Sportsman’s Network and the Outdoor Channel. On given weekdays (check your local listings) they run numerous gun-related programming which should delight and educate the average shooter. In addition, since I get no fewer than six gun magazine subscriptions a month, my couch potato tendencies lend themselves well to pouring through the material, dreaming about the latest toys available and learning a lot to boot from the best gun writers in the business.

Sure, I know that anything promoting more sit time is counterintuitive to staying healthy. And there is absolutely no substitute to experiencing the real thing at the range or training facility. But for all those moments that you find yourself trapped by wickedly hot Florida summertime temps, or having become exhausted by your spouse interrupting the important stuff you’re doing by making you take out the garbage, that blessed easy chair beckons with the irresistible call of comfort. So, while you’re there, enjoying your well-deserved moments of peace and reflection on how you’ll forgive your significant other for making you do household chores, you might as well get something accomplished concerning your favorite pastime. Your spouse may still be upset with you, but your shooting will thank you.

AARP – Alternative or Additional?

Whether you belong to AARP or not, it turns out there is an alternative to AARP and their anti-gun positions. It is AMAC or Association of Mature American Citizens (<https://amac.us>).

AMAC is only 11 years old, but presents itself as an alternative. They do provide Senior discounts, but not as many as AARP. Joining them may be more of taking a position with a company that aligns with your individual values or beliefs.

They published an article, “Demystifying Firearms” which we are allowed to reproduce here having secured their copyright approval. The article is included at the end of this issue.

Check AMAC out and consider supporting an organization that supports the 2nd Amendment and gun rights.

Raymond Navitsky, Jonathan Popp, James Veitch, Al Winchell

Follow the current standings on the website at **Events | Winchester QP | WMP standings.**

Congratulations to All!!

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

July Shooter of the Month at the Ocala Sportsman Association was Charlie Wilson.



July 2018 Donor Appreciation Awards



The July award was a Taurus Spectrum .380 carry pistol.

Savannah Meeting	Eisenhower Meeting
Pete Zito	Robert Dunning
	

Congratulations to Pete and Robert!

Winchester / NRA Achievements

Here are the most recent advancements:

- **Distinguished Expert:**
William Flaherty, Thomas Husar, Mike Moore, Gregory Somma
- **Defensive Pistol II, Distinguished Expert:**
G. Ronald Ames, Richard Armstrong,



**Congratulations
Charlie!**



Upcoming Club Activities

Excursions

Back by popular demand is the Reload excursion scheduled for 20 Sept 2018. Included for your enjoyment are 15 and 25 yard ranges, 100 yard rifle range (including shooting a .50 cal sniper rifle - \$10), shoot a fully automatic AR-15, and the ever popular 300 degree simulator.

Also, Reload provides discounts on guns, ammo and accessories. Gun discounts vary depending on the model and manufacturer. Ask our Event Coordinator for assistance with discount requests to the Reload manager.



Shooting Events

NOTE: Club Membership and Reservations are required for all Shooting Events

PREFACE: Please stay current via the website and your email since shooting events are being cancelled due to flooding. At the moment, most outdoor events at Emeralda are cancelled. Ocala Sportsman event on 27 Sept is **STILL SCHEDULED**.

All shoots are scheduled by registering on the Club website via the Activity Signup sheet and RegPack. *Consult the website for availability and current dates and times.*

Ocala Sportman's Association events

OSA is the 4th Thursday of the month at the outdoor **Ocala Sportsman's Assoc.** Ocala range held at 8:45 and 11 am. Each session has a handgun and separate rifle range.



Shooter's 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. 

All shoots are scheduled by registering on the Club website via RegPack. *Consult the website for availability and current dates and times.*



Seminar Meeting

The next Seminar is Wednesday, Sept. 19th with the **Semi-Annual Gun Cleaning Gala**, held at 2 - 3:30 pm at Sea Breeze. If you are having issues with cleaning or the proper tools to clean, bring your **EMPTY** gun (no ammo) and questions for answers.

Next Member Meetings



The September meeting presents *Guns of the Olde West & Hollywood*.



Savannah Rec Center:
Tue., Sept. 18th, 6:45pm – 8:15 pm. Doors open at 6:00 pm.



Eisenhower Rec Center:
Mon., Sept 24th, at 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30pm.

September meeting Donor Appreciation Award

At each meeting will be a Walther PK380.

Specs:

-  8 rounds
 -  Barrel 3.66"
 -  Overall length 6.5"
 -  Height 5.2"
 -  Width 1.2"
 -  Weight 18 oz
- Trigger pull is 11 lbs DA and 4 lbs SA.



Education Classes



Basic Pistol Safety: Sept 10th is wait- listed.

Personal Protection I – In the Home – pending; consult the website for the latest course.

Personal Security II - Outside the Home 2-day training course – pending; consult the website for the latest course.

Register online at the Club website. Go to the website Activity Sign Up page.

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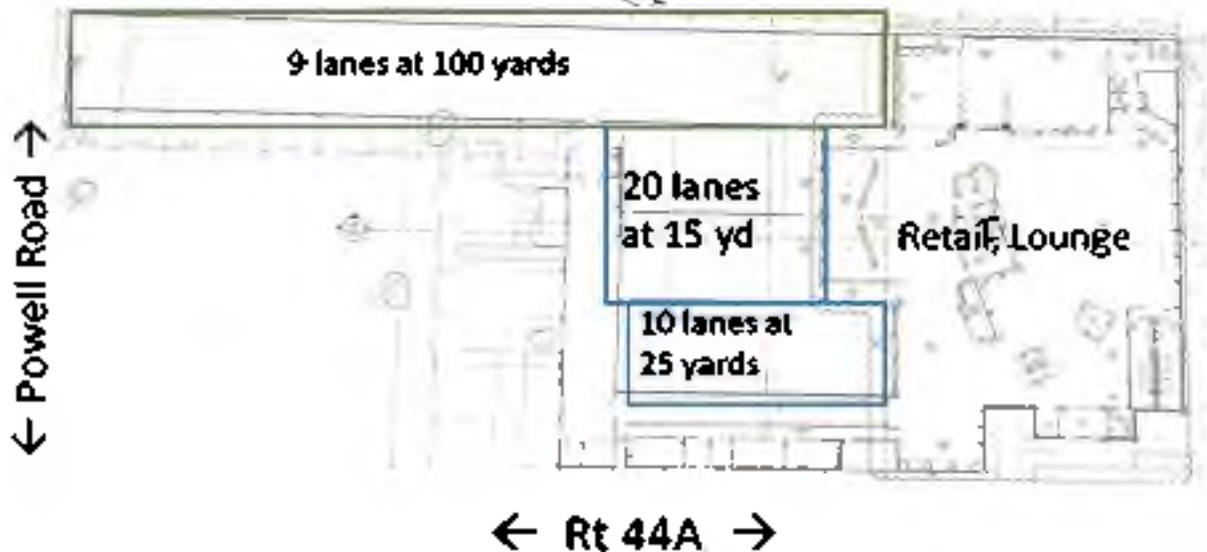
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<http://www.vssClub.org/newsletter.html>

Shooters World Villages





Demystifying Firearms

A Measure to Preserve the Second Amendment

By Cole P. Zail

Firearms are, and always have been, an integral part of our national culture and identity. The United States is one of the only nations in which gun ownership is not considered a special or conditional privilege, but a civil liberty enshrined in our Constitution.

Despite this, our current national discourse around firearms is largely marked by fear of them, rather than an understanding of their practical use. Discussions on guns center on limiting ownership or enacting stricter laws, typically in the name of public safety.

But guns are not the antithesis of safety. Guns and safety can—and, in fact, *should*—coexist. To assert otherwise only reinforces the fear of what is, when used responsibly, a useful tool. For this reason, it is essential that we encourage and normalize responsible gun use.

Rather than enacting more restrictions, we must demystify guns and dismantle the fears that surround them. We may even look to the not-too-distant past to see what a healthier cultural relationship with guns looks like.

Guns as a Family Pastime

In 1950's America, recreational shooting and hunting was common, and was, in fact, one of the most popular leisure activities for American adults and youth alike. Shooting as a sport was seen as a fun and wholesome activity that families could enjoy together.

It was also not unusual during this era for a parent to buy their child their first gun, and to teach them how to properly and safely use it. American magazine advertisements from the 1940's to the

1960's were filled with gun advertisements aimed at parents and young adults, depicting shooting as quality family time, a bonding experience between parents and their children, and a way to teach young adults a valuable skill they'd have for the rest of their lives. Organizations like the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers Institute, or SAAMI, regularly published pamphlets throughout the 1960's encouraging young boys and girls to take up shooting as a hobby, with taglines such as, "There's family fun in a gun!"

For many American teens and young adults during this era, learning to shoot with a parent was a special experience, seen as an important rite of passage. It meant that you were ready to take on the responsibility of owning and using a firearm, and were being entrusted to wield it properly.



Old-School

Likewise, while American youth today are accustomed to their schools being gun-free zones, it was once fairly common for American students to go to school with rifles. Throughout the 1950's and 1960's, secondary schools across the country had shooting clubs for young men and women, and were as normal a part of American high school life as joining the chess club or baseball team.

These clubs were not just popular in hunting states, either. In 1975, New York State had over 80 school districts with rifle teams, and almost every high school in New York City had a shooting club. While such extracurriculars would



Bob Smith, an instructor with the Anti-terrorism Center on Ford Island and Kaneohe resident, helps his daughter shoot during a recreational fire event at the Kaneohe Bay Range Training Facility, August 9, 2013. Attendees were allowed to bring their own weapons, but the range also supplied M4 rifles and M9 pistols.

undoubtedly elicit panic in students and parents today, shooting clubs were, at one point, a normal part of high school life for millions of Americans.

Empowered by education and training, these young adults did not fear firearms or see them as a dangerous threat in need of further restriction. This was a generation that grew up to understand, respect, and properly utilize firearms.

Guns Protect America, As Does Education

Assessing American gun culture of eras past, we can see that education and familiarization are key to dismantling the culture of fear that

dominates today's gun discourse. Whichever side of the debate you're on, proper firearm education and safety is something we should all agree on.

Let us emphasize gun training, safety, and education, as past generations did. Let us teach our children about guns while they are young, without shrouding the discussion in panic and paranoia. Let us use this national conversation as an opportunity to teach younger generations about the importance of responsible gun ownership, and the distinction between safe and unsafe gun use. Let us work towards decreasing gun violence through education, preparation and accurate information.

The Second Amendment is one of our most cherished and important liberties; we must not let it ever be compromised. The sooner we remove our fear blinders, the sooner we can advance towards becoming a gun-smart nation. ★

