



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



President's Corner

Hello Fellow Straight Shooters –

I honestly cannot believe that it is March 2021 already. Fortunately, most of our members have made it through this Covid-19 pandemic in good shape but we have had some members who lost this battle. Considering this I am urging all VSS members to get their vaccination (both shots) and continue wearing the masks at club activities as we have been doing till now. I do not really care what any governor decides is right or wrong. I will take my directions from the medical professionals.

Those of you who were at the February member meeting at Eisenhower got to watch me become very frustrated with the inability of the simulator camera to work with the software. After a long session with the technical support people, we determined that the problem was with the screen on the Eisenhower stage which was allowing the light to pass through it and not be reflected to the camera sufficiently to be detected. I do not see an occasion for using it again in that room so hopefully we have that problem in our past. I am very excited about the prospect of incorporating the simulator into our VSS shooting program.



Many of you have expressed your disappointment with Congressman Daniel Webster having to stay in Washington and being unable to make either of our meetings in February. We are going to try again and have invited him to both of our March meetings awaiting a confirmation at this time. We will keep

everyone posted on the front page of the website. Stay tuned.

Be safe - Chuck

Chuck Wildzunas
President



Next Member Meetings

Reservations & Masks Required see the VSS Website for details

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

Savannah – Tuesday, March 30th - 6:45 to 8:15 pm

Topic: Traveling with firearms and Congressman Dan Webster is tentatively scheduled to present his position on Bill HR 127.

**Donor Award:
Springfield Hellcat
9mm**



“When the people fear the government, there is tyranny. When the government fears the people, there is liberty.” Thomas Jefferson
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We are reprinting this article since the issues are still pending and we all need to act to protect our 2nd Amendment rights. Voting on HR 127 is coming in days.

This administration is set to punish us with restrictive laws for the systems lack of enforcing current laws in the big cities.

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



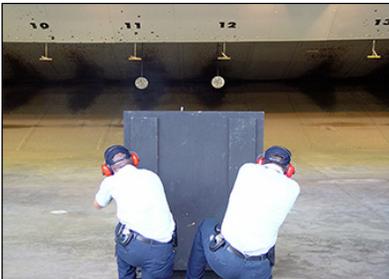
Motion Matters

By Terry Marksberry

You can be certain that should you face a lethal threat, and must draw your firearm to protect yourself, you will not be standing still, carefully aiming at a stationary target.



Actually, quite the other extreme. You should be quickly moving to seek cover or concealment, increasing the distance between you and the threat, perhaps shooting from the hip, all while the aggressor is likely doing the same. If you carry concealed, you should already know the importance of gun handling skills, marksmanship, and knowing the laws of self-defense. Equally important are the use of defensive tactics in a life-threatening situation.



Tactics, in a given situation, is the ability to skillfully manipulate time, cover, concealment, distance or angle relative to the threat, so you have

the ability to defend yourself, while denying the aggressor's ability to carry out the threat. An increased level of situational awareness is very important once you leave the security of your home or dwelling. The aggressor, with criminal intent, will almost always try to surprise you at a moment when you are distracted. For example, when you are putting groceries in the trunk, putting gas in the car, walking through a parking lot, etc. The aggressor may innocently ask you for the time in order to get close to you. It is critical that you not let a threat get close enough to deny you the ability to employ either your lethal or non-lethal means of self-defense.

Neglecting cover or concealment for a second, distance alone decreases the aggressor's ability to hit you with a shot by the square of the distance between you and the threat. There is a reason that policemen only hit their target about 25% on the first round. It has little to do with their marksmanship!!

There are many ways, based on the situation, where and know you can move to minimize the threat. A short refresher on cover verses concealment: Concealment simply hides you from the attacker although the object you are behind is not substantial enough to stop an incoming round. Cover provides concealment and can stop an incoming round (like a building).

The first tactic is to dash for concealment or cover as quickly as you can. You may be drawing your firearm while seeking cover. Once in position be sure to keep as much of your head and body behind cover as possible. From behind cover, you can track your attacker. Remember the AOJ triad [Ability, Opportunity, and Jeopardy] in the Laws of Self Defense presentation. If by successfully getting to cover, you have denied your attacker the Opportunity to harm you, you may not use lethal force. If the attacker departs the scene, so be it. If the attacker persists in the attack, do what you must.

If neither cover nor concealment is nearby, move laterally (45°) away from the threat to maintain or increase distance. Once you have a grip on your firearm, stop. Plant your feet and engage the target. The objective is to increase the distance until you can shoot accurately.



With a laser attachment you can shoot accurately from most any, even awkward, position.

If you take one or more side steps, it may give you time to draw and engage the target. The attacker may not respond to your motion quickly. In this

scenario, you have let the attacker get much too close. Your draw must be quick! Not a desirable problem.

Fleeing from danger is an inherited human trait. Defensive tactics provides you with an objective and purpose on when and where to run, while neutralizing a threat. "Stand Your Ground" does not mean stand still and shoot like the old west! Remember, the best gun fight is the one you did not have!

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)



"How to Get More Out of Your Shots"



I realize that the title of this article is far from clever, but "Tips for the Trigger Happy" or some such word-smithery was just too cutesy and I guarantee someone would

object. So I returned to the more obviously mundane, hopefully assuring that no one will yell at me. This month is an amalgamation of tips that should help give you an advantage while attending a club activity. These are recurring problems or omissions that I've noticed over the years that I repeatedly seem to correct. I thought that by compiling several of them in one place, some could be avoided and your range sessions would prove to be more beneficial.

RECOIL MANAGEMENT AND OTHER

FRIGHTENING PROSPECTS: For newer shooters especially, the fear of the "BOOM" is a



very real factor and tensing up is a natural result. You sometimes see their shoulders almost touching their ears in anticipation of the



dreaded explosion to come. But, while dropping the shoulders into a better position may be beneficial, the last thing I want to tell them to do is to "relax". If they do, they tend to relax their wrists and arms as well as their grip on the gun. You want a firm grip along with enough arm resistance to keep that firearm steady, especially when shooting a higher caliber or trying to shoot faster. The

only thing that could be considered "relaxed" while shooting is your brain and possibly the trigger finger, depending upon the individual shooter. What our shooters do tend to do is hold their arms straight out for far longer than necessary, thus building up too much tension. Unless you're being timed, give yourself a break now and then and return to a high or low ready position. Whether you're an experienced shooter or brand new to the sport, keep a firm grip on the gun and learn how to get your arms and shoulders properly set. Take advantage of one of our Instructional Shoots and have an instructor take a look at your technique from time to time to make sure you're doing it right.

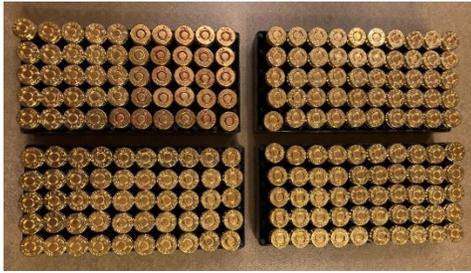


THE SWINGING SUPPORT ARM: Many of you shooting one handed are ignoring the support arm and just letting it hang straight down. The problem with that is that even with the minimal recoil of a .22 caliber target pistol, there is movement in that arm as it swings slightly. My tip is to hitch it to something and be consistent, putting it in the same place every time. Try hooking the thumb over a belt or slipping the fingers into a rear pocket. It's difficult enough to steady a barrel and you really don't need to worry about any additional movement.

BRING ENOUGH AMMO AND MAGAZINES:

Our Instructional Shoot attendees are starting to finish up earlier and earlier due to the ammo shortage. Recently, by the 45 minute mark, most

have headed home. But avoid bringing so little ammo to the shoot that you're empty after 15



minutes. Fifty rounds usually isn't adequate. If you can scrape it together, try for at least

200 rounds. And don't forget to pre-load all your magazines before you arrive. That saves a lot of your time before beginning the first string of fire.

On the subject of magazines, sometimes shooters will show up with just one or two. That makes for a lot of extra

stoppages for reloading during the shoot. If you're happy with your gun and you consider it a keeper, treat it (and



yourself) to some spare mags and be sure to number them so you can spot the problem ones in case of malfunctions.

PREPARATION AT HOME: When a shooter arrives at an event without having warmed up at all, the inevitable result is a first target that you wouldn't want to write home about. It takes a bit to get your hand/eye coordination going and get into that "groove". Before you even leave home, one



thing that can help is to get all the ammo out of the room, be SURE your firearm is clear, and do some dry firing before the shoot starts.

(This does not apply to many .22 caliber guns as they often don't fare well when dry firing). Laser and phone app practice gizmos of all sorts can also help in your warmup and dummy rounds can help protect the gun from repeated striker/hammer hits. Your extra efforts should bear fruit upon beginning the shoot.

HEALTH STUFF: After the shoot, be sure to take advantage of the excellent wash station

at Shooter's World and use the club hand sanitizers during the event. We're close to getting the Vaccine, but right now, it's worse than ever for potential exposure to Covid, so be very careful in your dealing with others and be sure to wear that mask. Too many of you are "relaxing" your precautions as we near the end of all this.



Becoming a better shooter is an ongoing process that takes dedication, concentration, repetition and more. Hopefully soon, the Covid disaster and the ammo shortage will work themselves out and we'll be back to whatever passes for normal. But whatever the circumstances, pay attention to the above tips and get as much as you can out of each and every shoot!

"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



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