



# The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



## Next Member Meeting



Everglades Recreation Center: Tuesday  
March 5<sup>th</sup> Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30.

Eisenhower Recreation

Center: March 25<sup>th</sup> Doors Open 5:30 Meeting 6:30.

March Member Appreciation Award: Taurus GX-4



March Meeting Topic: Heros & Demons - Featuring 2 amazing men who fought in WW2 (and some of the weapons they used).

## VSS Shooting Event Insurance

Assuring Your Insurance Coverage While Shooting with the Club:

All Villages Straight Shooters Club members at all Club Shooting Activities are protected by our club's Insurance Policy. Therefore, you must arrive at any Club Shooting Activity with proof of your membership.

*It is now required to have your up-to-date Membership ID Name Tag at all shooting activities. Membership ID Name Tags show your expiration date.*

If you have recently joined or recently renewed your membership and are waiting for your name tag to be mailed to you, you must bring a printed copy of your email membership confirmation or show the confirmation email from your cell phone.

## Approval of Revised Bylaws for Villages Straight Shooters

On the agenda for the membership meeting on March 25, 2024 will be the approval of proposed revisions to the Bylaws for the Club. The revisions are available for members to review on the Club website at [www.vssclub.org](http://www.vssclub.org) beneath the "Home" tab by selecting the "Bylaws/Organization" tab. Then see "Proposed VSS Club Bylaws."



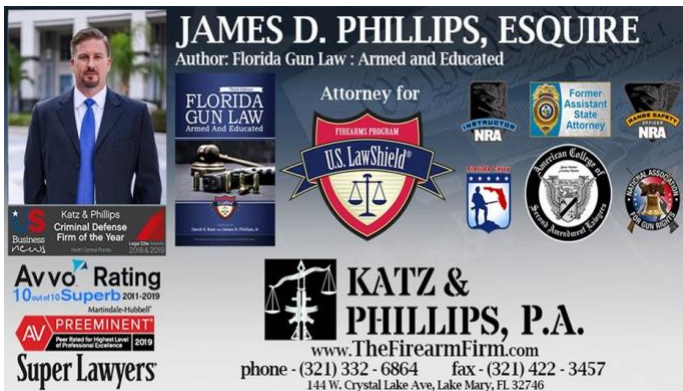
The primary change to the Bylaws is the addition of Article VI – Director/President Emeritus. This change allows for establishing a position of an emeritus past president or past director of the Club. Article VI reads as follows: "The Board of Directors may, at its sole discretion, designate an immediate past Director or immediate past President, as a Director Emeritus or President Emeritus, respectively, for a period of one year, which may be renewed for additional one-year periods. A Director Emeritus or President Emeritus shall provide counseling and advisory services to the Board (or current Club Officers in the case of a President Emeritus) as requested from time to time and may be invited to attend meetings of the Board but shall not vote or be counted for quorum purposes or have any of the duties or obligations of a Director or Officer of the Club."

Several other minor revisions are proposed principally to make conforming changes and technical corrections within the document.

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## Attorney James Phillips

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The February VSS meetings featured Attorney James Phillips for a presentation on Self Defense 101. It was an outstanding presentation which focused on Duty to Retreat, the Castle Doctrine and Immunity.

James shared that he has been suing the government while working with the Florida Gun Owners of America in support of our 2nd Amendment rights. There was a strong positive support from the audience on that statement.

You do not have the Duty to Retreat if you are not committing a crime. James did emphasize that just because you have that right does not mean you should always use that right. Many times, it's best to walk away before you get into a serious situation.

Florida does have a good Castle Doctrine statute, which covers your home, cars (it must be occupied) and your residence during travel. Castle Doctrine is not in effect if you are committing a crime or against a law enforcement officer entering your residence. An interesting note is: if a criminal enters your home via a closed but unlocked door or window, that is breaking and entering since they are not invited and had to physically act to enter. A wide-open door is different since they only must walk in without turning a door handle.

Immunity was covered in Self Defense situations and many of James' legal cases were cleared using that in the client's defense.

In closing James talked about the events after a shooting and that you should not give a statement to law enforcement and the effects of PTSD on a lawful shooter. He also emphasized the need to get an

attorney immediately and used the example of the Applebee's shooting a few years ago in Lady Lake. He was called in the middle of the night and traveled to represent a client shooter in that case who was covered by U.S. Law Shield insurance. The legal cost for many of these cases is six figures even if the case is not brought to trial.

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## Attorney James Phillips Answer to Members Questions

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Q: James mentioned that armed force was allowed inside a vehicle and proceeded to list several types of conveyances (I think that was how he referred to them). He distinctly mentioned that motorcycles are included as a "conveyance" but bicycles were not. Since we live in a golf car community, do golf cars get treated as an approved conveyance?

A. Yes, I would expect golf carts to be considered conveyances as golf carts are considered vehicles in Florida.

Q. I just moved here from IL, where I held a CCW permit. In IL, gun imprinting (the gun outline showing through clothing) was a big concern that could result in law enforcement action against permit holders. What stance does FL take on a weapon outline showing through clothing (even if it is actually completely covered).

A. Florida does not prohibit printing so long as the handgun is completely concealed. Although it is not a crime, I highly advise to wear proper clothing so not to print as printing may cause unwanted attention.

Q. I know open carry is not allowed in FL, but does a gun showing briefly accidentally (ie, while adjusting a shirt/jacket) make it an open carried weapon? Obviously, I understand the goal is to keep a concealed weapon completely concealed.

A. No. Florida Statute 790.053(1) reads: Except as otherwise provided by law and in subsection (2), it is unlawful for any person to openly carry on or about his or her person any firearm or electric weapon or device. It is not a violation of this section for a person licensed to carry a concealed firearm as provided in

s. 790.06(1), and who is lawfully carrying a firearm in a concealed manner, to briefly and openly display the firearm to the ordinary sight of another person, unless the firearm is intentionally displayed in an angry or threatening manner, not in necessary self-defense.

In addition, James would like to provide VSS members with the following links to important information:

Purchase Florida Gun Law: Armed and Educated - <https://thefirearmfirm.com/product/florida-gun-law-armed-and-educated/>

To Subscribe to The Firearm Firm Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@TheFirearmFirm>

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## The .380 ACP: History & Performance

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Ok, let's start with the basics: the 380

is actually a .355 caliber round not a .38. So, it's like a 9mm short. Yes, it's performance is not up to the 9mm, but the recoil is mild compared to the 9mm, but as we have talked about previously in this newsletter some modern bullet design makes up the difference.

[The 380ACP History & Performance](#)



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## Extar EP9 Carbine

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Of course, many of us shoot a 9mm handgun because of its performance and low cost. Keeping with the old cowboy use of the common 44-40 cartridge in his six shooter and lever action rifle, we now have many 9mm rifle carbines in that same role of commonality.

[Extar EP9 Carbine](#)



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## Shot Show 2024

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Another 9mm carbine. A small sample of the new offering from the gun manufactures at the 2024 SHOT Show. Especially interesting is the new 9mm KelTec SUB2000 Gen 3 offering with many improvements like the ability to fold with optics installed and a new aluminum trigger. Plus, it takes Glock magazines.

[Shot Show 2024](#)



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## Smith and Wesson Model 1854

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What is old is new again.

We have seen a new era of reborn style of pistols and



rifles and the old cowboy lever action rifles are back in style with the new Ruger Marlin and the many new models of Henry lever action rifles. And just like the newly designed Marlin, this rifle has all the modern features that gun owners want.

The Model 1854 is currently only chambered in the .44 magnum, which can also be used in a revolver handgun, single or double action. Another pistol caliber rifle, but this has the longer barrel, so it's not a carbine.

Here review the Smith and Wesson Model 1854:

[Smith & Wesson Model 1894 Lever Action](#)





## 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)

### “MOVEMENT”



Although I was an EMT for 15 years, I'm about as far away from the medical knowledge of a physician as one could possibly be. But one thing

the regular instructors of the Villages Straight Shooters become very good at, is dealing with the age-related maladies our group of shooters tend to experience. Of all the various complaints that our members come to the range with, one of the most often cited is excessive movement. Lately, this has become exacerbated by the prevalence of red dot sights. Although they will, with practice, make you a better shooter, they do tend to amplify the perception of movement when trying to zero in on a target. You're not moving any more than you do with the iron sights that your handgun came with, but it certainly seems so.



First of all, relax! Nobody holds completely still. It's impossible! Some movement is a normal occurrence, and we all have to deal with it. Admittedly, with age, come new challenges. Our eyes aren't what they used to be, and our muscles aren't getting any stronger. Add to that the occurrences of something called Senile Tremors or (just to sound like I know what I'm talking about), Dyskinesias and other such maladies which can affect the upper extremities. Doctors often treat the tremors with beta-blockers, if they address it at all. I also know from personal experience that they can and do sometimes go away on their own. We're not talking Parkinson's here. We ran a special group of shoots for Parkinson's patients several years back (having several of our members

suffering from the disease) and it proved an interesting and successful exercise. Obviously, if you're concerned about exactly what you're going through, check with your primary doctor for answers. I did and was relieved and educated with the results.

Whatever your particular hurdle, in the great majority of the cases, there is no need to give up your enjoyment of the shooting sports. First, come to a Club Shoot and check in with one of our instructors. Odds are that they've experienced what you're dealing with (or, at least, something similar) and might be able to come up with a work-around for your problem. We have a terrific group of guys and gals looking to help you excel as a shooter and have fun doing it. You might as well take advantage.



See you at the range!

### Rolling Through the Red Dot



Many of us older shooters are converting to red dots to improve the accuracy of every shot and there have been articles in The

Reticle on that subject.

This article from the NRA's Shooting Illustrated is an excellent article and includes exercises to improve our holster draw to shooting times and accuracy.

Enjoy: [Rolling Through the Red Dot](#)



#### The Reticle<sup>©</sup>

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[vssnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:vssnewsletter@gmail.com)

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