



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Next Member Meeting



Savannah –
Tuesday, Nov. 15th -
6:45 to 8:15 pm.
Doors open at 6 pm.
Eisenhower –
Monday, Nov. 28th -
6:30 to 8:00 pm. Doors open at 5:30 pm.

**Member Appreciation Award:
Springfield Hellcat® 3" 9mm
Micro-Compact OSP Ready to
mount a red dot optic.**



**Or: We
are
starting
a new
member award benefit. The winner will have a
choice between a monthly pistol or a
Ruger 10/22 rifle and 500 rounds of .22
ammo.**



**October Topic: Gifts for Gun Nuts
Presented by: Chuck Wildzunas**

Legislative Action Committee

Well, the 2022 election season is over, and our pro-gun candidates won in our county and state along with the US House and Senate and are now controlled by pro-gun representatives. Thanks to all VSS member who voted in this election!

Congratulations to the following Florida Second Amendment supporters who won elections in 2022:

- **Governor Ron DeSantis**

- **US Senator Marco Rubio**
- **US Congressman District 11 Dan Webster**
- **Florida Senate District 11 Blaise Ingoglia Sumter County**
- **Florida Senate District 13 Dennis Baxley which covers Lake County**
- **Florida Senate District 9 Senator Keith Perry which covers Marion County**
- **Florida Representative District 52 John Temple**

There were also other Florida Representatives and Senators who won seats that support Constructional Carry giving us more pro second amendment votes in Florida state legislature.

We did have Senator Dennis Baxley at our December 2021 meeting to discuss the Constructional Carry bills before the 2022 legislative session, which failed in the second committee. We have spoken to Senator elect Blaise Ingoglia who is supportive of this effect in 2023 and he knows our position on Constitution Carry.

Congressman Dan Webster has spoken at our meetings in the past and is a strong supporter of the Second amendment.

Any gun in the hands of a decent person is no threat to anyone except bad people. *Charlton Heston*



Battle Rifles of WWI

By Don Frazer, from his October VSS meeting *Great War Great Guns* presentation

Let's start with the Allies light weapons:



Mosin Nagant



- 29-inch barrel
- 8.8 pounds
- 7.62x54 in 5 round clip
- Several producers, including Remington and Westinghouse

Springfield M1903



- 8.7 pounds
- 24-inch barrel
- 3 million built
- .30-06 and .30-03
- 5 round clip
- 1200-yard effective range
- 15 to 30 rounds per minute

Sniper version with a 8x Unertl scope



Air Service 1903



- Shortened stock and hand guard
- 25-round magazine
- General Pershing requested 825 rifles
- Potential use by downed airmen

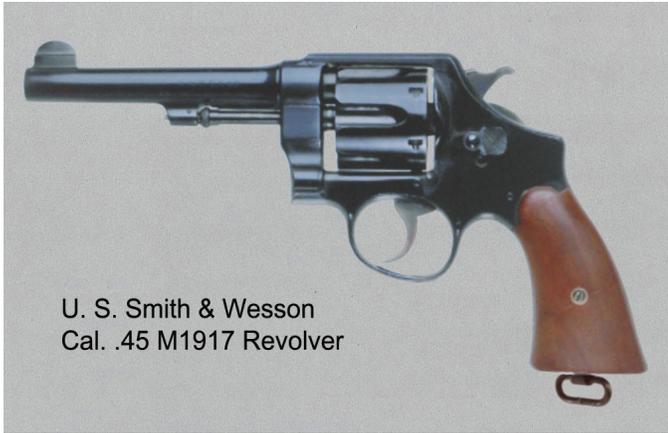
M1917



- Enfield design in .30-06
- 26-inch barrel
- 5 round stripper clips
- Effective range 600 yards
- Manufacturers:
 - Winchester
 - Remington Arms
 - Eddystone Arsenal
- 2,193,429 total

Inside the M1917 Enfield: The M1917 Enfield's were very robust guns. While many of us may think of bolt action rifles as light hunting rifles, these guns are far from that. They weighed nearly 10 pounds, featuring 26-inch barrels and an overall length of 46.2 inches. The M1917 Enfield held five rounds of .30-06 and could be loaded via individual rounds or through stripper clips. Stripper clips allowed for rapid reloads via simple disposable clips that hold five rounds by their rim.

Pistols of WWI

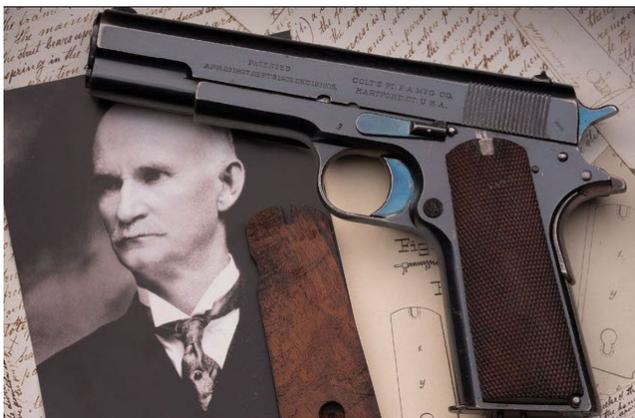


- 2.25 lbs, 5.5 in. barrel
- .45 ACP
- 6 shot, half moon clips
- 153,300 made



- 2.5 lbs, 5.5 in. barrel
- .45 ACP
- 6 shot half-moon clips
- 151,700 made

1911 Semi-Auto Pistol



- M1911 designed by John Moses Browning
- .45 ACP in 7 round single stack magazines



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)

“A CAUTIONARY TALE!”

Ah, The Villages: “Florida’s Friendliest Home Town”! A beautiful place to live. Clean, well-kept and safe. At least that’s the way most of us in The Villages Straight Shooters treat the place. We rarely carry our guns with us to shop at Publix; seldom think about toting an uncomfortable firearm while having a pastrami sandwich at Toojay’s. The statistics tell us that there are few break-ins when we’re away and even fewer home invasions when we’re in residence. But, can it happen here? You bet it can! On October 12th, it happened to one of our hard-working instructors, Steve Gianelos.



About 1:00 PM in the afternoon, Steve, at home with his wife, Judy, noticed a commotion outside as eight sheriff's Deputies, along with a canine unit, ran through his back yard, obviously searching for someone. Around three PM, both Steve and his wife heard some unusual sounds in the house and began a search for the source, Steve instinctively armed himself with a handgun. Noticing an elbow sticking out from behind a door to the lanai, Steve told Judy to call 911 and confronted the intruder, a 20-something who had entered the unlocked lanai door. The young man asked to use their phone and Steve yelled out a very emphatic "NO!", while aiming his pistol at the man, who quickly left the premises. Seeing where he was heading, Steve called his neighbor who was already calling 911. The intruder eventually entered another lanai, using the same tactic of asking to use the phone to call his mother. After some discussion, he finally vacated their home as well. The Sherriff's office said they never found the man.



As Steve said, "This was the first time he had pointed a loaded gun at someone since Vietnam". Except for not locking his lanai door, Steve did everything right and used his firearm the way a responsible gun owner should. It accomplished helping to keep them safe – without bloodshed. Being justified or not, the consequences of shooting someone are extremely serious - on multiple levels - and not something you ever want to do, unless you and/or your loved ones or other innocent lives are in danger.



(Photo is of Steve Gianelos in Vietnam as Air Force Security Force Sergeant with his trusty M-79 grenade launcher!

Some guys have all the fun. *Editor)*

(As an interesting side note, this isn't the first time the LaBelle North neighborhood has experienced

this kind of trouble. About three and a half years ago, some of you will recall the Belle Glade Country Club being robbed and the perpetrator barricading himself in a nearby house. It was all very dramatic with shots fired, breaching the front door with an armored Bearcat, car chases and pit maneuvers.)



Assuming you possess an up-to-date concealed carry license, I can't advise you to carry your firearm every time you run down to check your mailbox. That is a personal decision. But I certainly can advise you to have firearms at the ready in your home. If you do, it is extremely important that you take advantage of classes given regarding home protection, creating a safe room and proper storage and access to your guns.

Steve's story vividly demonstrates that it can happen here as easily as anywhere and proper preparation is essential. Generally, I think The Villages is a safe place to live. But, if the bad guys start thinking of our town as a soft target, that can change in a heartbeat.



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vssnewsletter@gmail.com

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