



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Greetings...

Welcome home Seasonal Members (AKA: Snowbirds). We are in full operation for our member meetings and seminars. Check out the website for information on meetings, seminars, and shooting activities. We have hit one strange situation regarding our member meetings--- At Eisenhower, when we were at 50% capacity, the maximum number allowed in the room was 192. NOW we are at 100% and the maximum number allowed in the room is 162. Yes, you read that right.... It seems that



room capacity was recalculated by the Fire Department.... Also, all the chairs are joined together so that they cannot be moved. We should not have any

problem with Savannah Center since we can get 700 in there, but Eisenhower is another story. With a max of 162 and given that our snowbirds have started returning, we face the possibility of having to turn folks away once the room is full. I will keep you informed of any new developments.

The doner appreciation award guns give away for this month will be:

Savannah Center – Ruger Max9
Eisenhower – Ruger Mk IV/22/45, 22 Target Pistol

I am looking for input on possible places to hold our simulator sessions. If you can think of any place that might consider letting us use their facility, please give me a call (352-753-3703).

Also, if you feel that you have an area of expertise that would be of interest to our general membership

and could work up a 30 – 45 min presentation on the subject, let's talk.

Chuck Wildzunas
President



Next Member Meeting



**Savannah –
Tuesday Oct 19th –
6:45 to 8:15 pm.
Doors open at
6:00pm. Donor**

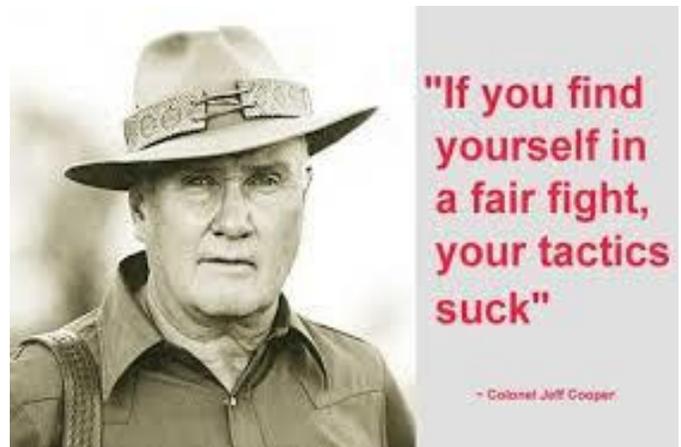


**Award: Ruger Max-9, 9mm
with two 12-round magazines.**



**Eisenhower – Monday, Oct
25th - 6:30 to 8:00 pm.
Doors open at 5:30pm.
Donor Award: Ruger
Mark IV .22 cal with two 10-round magazines.**

October Topic: Home Security Systems



Important Message for Veterans

Central Florida Combat Veterans Have Access to better Mental Health Care.

Commander John Wells (Retired) to speak on the legislative efforts being conducted on behalf of veterans exposed to Agent Orange and other toxic chemicals on Guam, and other Pacific Islands.



The "stigma" attached to seeking mental health treatment, causes many veterans to avoid seeking help. The Community Veterans Resource

Group (CVRG) was formed earlier this year in The Villages focuses on mental health services available to combat veterans and their families.

The VA introduced an innovative approach to veteran mental health care with the formation of the VET CENTER concept, where a combat veteran and his/her family can seek individual mental health care from trained/certified professionals in complete privacy and confidentiality. Until recently, the closest VET CENTER to The Villages was in Ocala at 3300 SW 34th Avenue, Suite 140, Ocala, FL 34474, phone 352-237-1947.

Beginning Friday, August 20 and every Friday



afternoon thereafter, Ocala VET CENTER professionals are available from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m. in a private room in the Town

of Lady Lake library reserved to serving combat veterans and his/her family. CVRG's objective is to establish a VET CENTER within The Villages and is actively working with the Ocala VET CENTER and

an established health care provider to achieve this objective.

CVRG has conferenced with Commander John Wells US Navy (Retired), the chairman of Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc., a professional advocacy organization that interacts with Congress specifically for benefits on behalf of veterans. CVRG has arranged for an all veterans' units meeting where Military-Veterans Advocacy, Inc. will deliver a presentation on the status of recent Congressional activities regarding veterans benefits. This presentation, and another one by Ocala VET CENTER Leadership are scheduled for October 22, 2021 from 1:00 until 3:30 at American Legion Post 347 699 W. Lady Lake Blvd Lady Lake, FL 32159-1534. You are urged to attend.

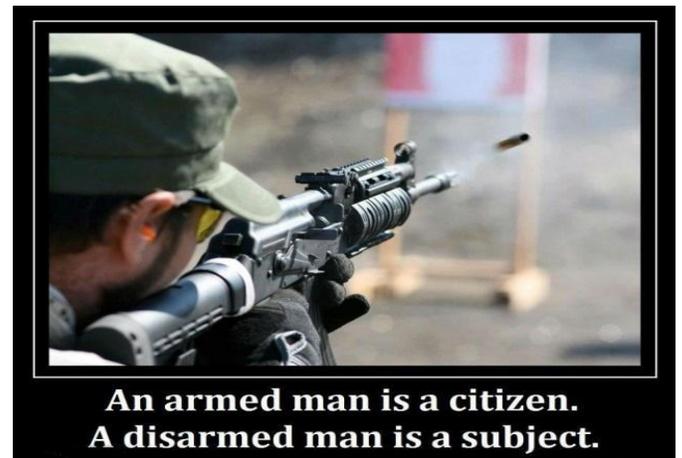


Due to limited seating arrangements and interest in this meeting, please RSVP soonest to ComVetResGp@gmail.com to ensure your attendance so that you can learn about the latest information on this most important subject.

With respect,

Conrad Fischer

Community Veterans Resource Group



**An armed man is a citizen.
A disarmed man is a subject.**

“Be Prepared!”

By Terry Marksberry

The following article has been reprinted and edited from the May 2016 The Recticle. This info is important not only for weather related events, but also pandemics, enemy and foreign/domestic terror attacks.

With the hurricane season bearing down on us, it is timely to look at being prepared for events, however unlikely, that may affect us living here in central Florida.



First, the term “Prepper” is defined as: An individual that prepares in advance of any potential change in normal circumstances in order to minimize the effects of that change on their current lifestyle and personal security without significant reliance on others, including the government.

Everyone is a “Prepper” to some extent. It is just a matter of degree and duration of the preparations. Anyone with home, auto, carry insurance, for example, has prepared for the financial impact of an adverse event. We need to also consider the potential impact of adverse conditions that may affect our lifestyle and security.

While the TV series “Prepper” from National Geographic focused on extreme situations of long duration, our interest is on the short term, more likely, scenarios of 3-7 days or up to 3 months at the outside. The assumed duration of the potential crisis is a key planning factor and has a major impact on your decisions and requirements.

Our level of comfort and security is extremely dependent on the power grid. One of the biggest enemies affecting the availability of power is wind

and water, both amply provided by a typical hurricane. You saw where the storm Sandy, in the northeast, caused some neighborhoods to be without power for several weeks.



Most grocery stores have a 3-day supply of food and water, at best. With a run on the stores, in anticipation of a hurricane or other crisis, the stores can literally be cleaned out in a matter of hours. Being totally dependent of computers and frequent replenishment, a power interruption would preclude any timely restocking. It would therefore not be wise to depend on buying what you need when a crisis is imminent.

The first thing to focus on is the “Critical Triad”, namely (1) water, (2) food, (3) shelter, in that order. The rule of 3 simply states you can live without air for 3 minutes, without water for 3 days, and without food for 3 weeks.



WATER

With a crisis of less than a couple of weeks duration, you can likely depend on public water supplies and bottled water even if an evacuation to a safer location becomes necessary. However, should the duration of the crisis last beyond two weeks and involve interruptions in power or the transportation system, water utilities may fail to be replenished with the chemicals needed to purify the water. The ability of the public water utilities to provide clean water could be impacted severely.



There are several techniques for providing water for drinking, cooking, and sanitation on an ongoing basis at a reasonable cost. Do an internet search for details.

FOOD

When planning to stock a supply of food for some duration, you must consider the nutritional value and the duration of time the food can be stored and still retain its freshness and nutritional value. Of course, cost is also a consideration.

There are four potential alternatives for stored food:

1. Rotating supply of non-perishable canned food
2. Meals Ready to Eat (MREs)
3. Pre-packaged Meals (freeze dried or dehydrated)
4. Bulk packaged food supplies (usually dehydrated)



The cost per meal declines as you go down the above list. If you can hunker down, in place, during the crisis, option one is feasible. However, if you must relocate or are forced to evacuate, options 2 and 3 are

good choices. Should the duration of the crisis extend beyond 3-4 weeks, option 4 is the most cost-effective solution.

While it is beyond the scope of this article, there are numerous other planning factors to consider in a crisis such as:

- Power & energy
- Lighting
- Communications
- Transportation
- Medical
- Personal Defense



A good idea is the creation of a 72-Hour Emergency Kit including items named in this article.



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)



“MAKE EMILY POST PROUD!”

Emily Post! Now there's a reference that might have anyone under 50 scratching their heads. But I figured that with this crowd I wasn't taking much of a chance. Although she pre-dates even us, her name was – and will always probably be – associated with social etiquette. Which is the very subject of this column but focusing specifically on range etiquette. What your manners are like at home...well...it's probably best that I don't go there!

I must say that most of you go out of your way to be respectful of both other shooters as



well as those running the various events. To those I say thanks, job well done! From time to time, however, certain things pop up that shouldn't be happening, usually unbeknownst to the offenders and certainly unintentional. Review the following and be sure to think about these courtesies as you spend some time at the range.

DON'T STICK OUT IN A CROWD: Seemingly trying to take advantage of every inch, folks on the line will often stick out their handguns so far that the barriers between shooters prove useless and their brass rains down, usually upon the person on their right side. That shooter is extremely thankful that they wore a hat



with a bill that day, but the maelstrom of brass is often unnecessary and always distracting. Many times, the shooters being pelted will request that they be moved to another lane. Although getting beamed by the occasional shell casing is part and parcel of the range experience, be sure to stay back far enough to avoid it turning into an excessive deluge.

THANK THOSE MANAGING THE EVENT: These club activities don't just happen. They take a lot of



coordination and personal time sacrificed by the RSO's, Instructors and Event Managers running the shoot. It makes them feel great to hear a simple "Thank you!" from the participants. No one except the Shooter's World RSO is being paid. But thank

them too! It's good public relations for the Club and just plain nice!

OFFER TO CLEAN UP YOUR STATION: The



RSO's and Instructors will be happy to clean up the lanes after you depart. On a slow day, they may even prefer to do it. But at least offer to sweep up the brass with the floor squeegee provided. And be sure to always do it when you're shooting on your own and not with the Club.

WARN OTHERS OF AN ESPECIALLY LOUD GUN: If you're visiting the handgun or rifle range and you've brought along Grandpa's hand cannon or that beloved piece of artillery that can be heard in the



next county, warn the RSO and especially the folks next to you that it's going to be LOUD! Just imagine a new shooter, shaking in their boots over

squeezing the trigger for the first time of their recently purchased .22, and you set off a .50 caliber S&W 500 in the next booth. They may have a cardiac or at the very least jump higher than they thought possible. One thing's for certain: They won't be returning to the range anytime soon.

KEEP THE CHATTER TO A MINIMUM: If you want to visit with other shooters, fine. If the conversation is extensive, it shouldn't be held in the confines of the booth, especially while your friend is actively shooting. If you're instructing them, let the RSO know that's the case. If you have your chat behind the line, just remember that others are trying to concentrate on their technique and may be distracted by your conversation, which is necessarily loud due to the earphones attenuating your hearing and the barrage of gunfire. (This is a good time to promote electronic ear muffs. They certainly make conversing on the range easier!)

I'm sure you all have your own pet peeves while trying to enjoy a day of shooting. Just consider that other people do too, and it might just be you causing their distress. Let's all think about others while having a blast making things go bang.



"I am concerned for the security of our great Nation; not so much because of any threat from without, but because of the insidious forces working from within." – General Douglas MacArthur



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