



# The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



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## Presidents Corner

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SEPTEMBER! Well, here we are, six months into what will undoubtedly rank among some of the most memorable months of our lives. What has happened in this time would provide several additional chapters for the novel “1984”. People world-wide dying from an unseen and invisible virus....

The government telling workers that they cannot go to work. (Terms like “Essential” and “Non-Essential” used to make work/no work determinations).

The government is paying workers who are not able to work. Many of whom would love to return to work, but are prohibited from doing so. The vacillation on the issue of face masks; don’t wear them, wear them, make your own choice... any and all choices are right or wrong depending on your point of view (and, unfortunately, in many cases depending on your political persuasion.)

**Meetings:** We were hoping (back in April) that we would be able to resume meetings in September...

September is here, but still the same restrictions exist. Even if the restrictions on the number of persons



permitted in the recreation center rooms were to be eased somewhat, we would have to implement a reservation system since we would not be able



to accommodate all of our members who might wish to attend. I look forward to resuming our meetings and seminars as quickly as it is reasonably safe to do so consistent with the ability to service our existing and new members.

Our members who have been enjoying the weekday shooting events at Shooter’s World are discovering the scarcity of ammunition.... 9mm ammo which we were selling in February for \$.17/round is now selling for \$.60/round, or more, when you can find it.

I did not intend for this message to be a “doom and gloom” message, and indeed, I do not believe it is. Things are going to get better and we will slowly be able to return to normal, or what will be determined to be our “new normal”. Whatever that is will certainly be better than what we are experiencing right now.

Chuck Wildzunas  
President



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## The New Face of Gun Control

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The upcoming national election has been described by many as a dramatic fork in the road for our country from most any perspective.

In the past there has been a notable difference between the political parties regarding gun control and 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment (2A) issues. The difference today is more stark than ever before.

In prior elections, politicians on the right have openly supported the NRA and even took pride in their “A” rating regarding their support of 2A issues. The left, on the other hand, soft peddled their anti-gun and 2A perspective at least until they got elected.

Side note: Even Karl Marx did not support gun control. How can you have a revolution if the “peasants” do not have any guns?? It was not until the Bolsheviks came to power that they disarmed the population to protect the revolution.

In today’s political climate gun control and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment are front and center.

While Biden has openly been anti-gun and 2A in the past, he has become more extreme in his views as his party has moved further to the left. He is particularly anti-AR-15.

During a November 6, 2019, CNN interview, Biden [answered](#) in the affirmative when asked if he was coming for guns. CNN’s Anderson Cooper said, “So, to gun owners out there who say, well, a Biden administration means they’re going to come for my guns?”



Biden replied, “Bingo. You’re right if you have an assault weapon. The fact of the matter is, they should be illegal, period.”

Both Biden and his prospective VP, Kamala Harris, have stated support for a government mandated buyback program for AR-15s.

Since long guns, including AR-15s only account for less than 2% of mass shootings, it makes you wonder what problem they are trying to solve.

As our Founders understood, you cannot defend against a potential tyranny with pistols.

Harris is far more extreme on firearm issues than Biden. In addition to the mandated buyback she espouses:

- Prohibiting rifle purchases for 18-20 year old individuals

- Universal background checks (previously shown to solve nothing)
- Require “Good Cause” to “grant” a concealed carry license (a cute way of saying forget about getting a carry license!).
- Repeal of the law protecting gun manufacturers. Biden said “it was a “mistake” to give “gun manufacturers ... a loophole that does not allow them to be sued for the carnage they are creating.”

On July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, Harris pledged to go around Congress to secure gun control via executive action, if Congress refused to support her gun control agenda.

Finally, Harris told reporters in Iowa, “I own a gun for probably the reason that a lot of people do: for personal safety.” (OK for her but not for you!?)

The current violence and unrest in the country has been limited to the major cities at this point although there have been stated objectives to move to the neighborhoods and suburbs.

### **If you care about your 2A rights, be sure to vote.**

Gun sales in the past few months have set all-time records as individuals get serious about personal protection.

If you have a firearm or intend to purchase one (everyone is out of stock!) do not forget to also invest in training



and routine practice. The Villages Straight Shooters can help. Stay safe! Stay healthy!!



## 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)



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### “WHAT WE SEE”

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Howdy! I hope everyone is staying safe and using all this extra time on our hands to do something creative and satisfying. OK – so I’m not either. But I thought



some general firearm related subject matter will help better

prepare us now that we have begun our normal shooting schedules again. So I thought it might be interesting to re-visit and explore what goes on at a club shoot – but this time through the eyes of an instructor. What is it we look for and observe at a typical event? Due to an enthusiastic gaggle of qualified help and Floyd Dunstan’s deft handling of the mob, you will notice a more-than-adequate supply of yellow-vested club members lurking behind you at every Club shoot. Although that sounds a bit like the description of a creepy new bird species, these helpful folks are actually RSO’s (Range Safety Officers) and Instructors. While the RSO’s are keeping us all safely following the rules of the range, the instructors are free to help the shooters with their marksmanship technique and general gun-handling skills. If there’s a safety issue, we’ll step in immediately. As to helping a shooter improve their skills, it depends. As long as a shooter is safe, a creative and sometimes odd technique is often not of great concern if all the shots are in the X-Ring. But, if there’s opportunity to help the

shooter improve, we might respectfully suggest a fix to a particular problem or two. Basically, here’s what we look for:

**STANCE:** Are the shooters feet spread comfortably apart, creating a stable base? So often, shooters will have their feet way too close together, causing them to have to have balance issues and creating an additional, unnecessary problem. If they wish to have their strong side foot slightly in back of the support side foot, that’s fine. Just don’t overdo it. Also, bending slightly forward at the waist and placing your weight towards the balls of your feet is a good starting point. We see numerous shooters “sitting back” in their stance. Getting the arms out comfortably straight will complete a great starting position. Then you’ll be able to tweak things and discover what works best for you.

**GRIP:** Your strong side fingers should wrap firmly around the grip of the gun with the web of the hand riding as high on the backstrap as possible. The beavertail of most modern firearms should protect you from “slide bite”. Your support side fingers should wrap around your strong side, with the support-side forefinger touching the bottom of the trigger guard for optimum control. We witness huge gaps in this area, with shooters sometimes even having the support-side hand “teacupping” the strong side hand at the bottom of the magazine well. When you do this, you’re losing out on the advantage of getting the support-side palm in on the grip and creating that extra friction that will benefit your control. This is especially important with the higher calibers. When we see the firearm flying out of the support-side fingers with each shot, necessitating re-gripping, we know there needs to be an improvement in the gripping technique. Generally, try and have your strong-side thumb laying on top of your support-side thumb, which, in turn, allows your support-side palm to come into contact with the grip.

Once you've established a proper grip, adding a little push-pull with your arms and locking in that position can prove an additional positive step. Again, especially important with more powerful ammo. Think about 70% pull from your support arm and 30% push from your strong side. This will aid in keeping your trigger finger relaxed and as isolated as possible. Be sure to take advantage of us and take a moment to discuss proper trigger management with an instructor. It's a really, really vital part of good marksmanship and is very often the cause of misplaced bullets.

**SIGHTS:** With the advent of red dots, properly achieving sight alignment and a good sight picture is in danger of becoming a lost art. Don't depend completely on your red dot. It could fail and unless you can co-witness your iron sights (original factory sights) through the red dot window, you could be out of luck. Be sure to practice your iron sights technique. If you're unsure of how to correctly achieve the above-mentioned sight alignment and sight picture, check with an instructor. If your elevation (up and down) is OK but your windage (left and right) is off by about six inches to a foot (depending on distance from the target), have the instructor show you how to tell which is your dominant eye.

The good thing about red dots is that they bypass the sometimes-difficult job of sight alignment and picture. They are a godsend for ageing eyes and the rumor is that we have a few of those around The Villages! If even a red dot is hard for you to see clearly, find an optic that uses a green dot as that color is easier for the human eye to detect and will prove brighter under any and all lighting conditions. This will prove especially significant with lasers. Although they're a tad more expensive and the batteries could run out a little quicker, the benefits of green dots strongly outweigh any shortcomings. When our shooters purchase their first red dot sight,

we often witness what I like to call the "Red Dot Rhumba". At first, finding that little sucker in the lens can be frustrating, causing the shooter's muzzle to dance all over the place. Have an instructor show you how to find it easily and soon you will have no problem.

The bottom line is this: Besides the camaraderie, one of the main reasons to attend a Club shoot is that you have available to you – at no cost – qualified



instructors that have seen it all. If we can't answer a question, we'll find out the answer for you. We're there to help and you might as well take advantage. On many occasions and when necessary, we'll assign an instructor to spend the entire shoot with one, struggling new

shooter, getting them relaxed, comfortable and more confident with their new firearm. Join in on the fun and sign up for a Club shoot in the near future. We look forward to seeing you there!

Hopefully, this will all be over sooner than later.

**"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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Managing Editor, Chuck Wildzunas,  
[vssnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:vssnewsletter@gmail.com)  
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