



The Reticle

Gun Safety, Education, Marksmanship



Greetings...

I hope everyone is ready to get back in operation after our July and August break from meetings.... I really thought that by this time we would be "out of the woods" but that does not appear to be the case. Our meeting room at Eisenhower had a capacity of 192 when we were at 50%, but now that we are at full capacity the Fire Department has declared that the capacity of the room is 262. So far, we have not had to cancel any scheduled meetings, but I have seen that the Fall Craft Fair in October has been cancelled.

While we are seeing increased availability of ammunition, the price has not returned to the pre-COVID levels. This has caused many of us to reach into our safe and pull out the .22LR guns that have seen little use. The guns for the Donor Appreciation Award this month will be a Ruger Max9 at Savannah Center and a .22LR Ruger Mark IV at Eisenhower.

Our shooting programs are continuing to offer the opportunity for our members to improve their shooting skills thanks to our Shoot Manager, Floyd Dunstan and his dedicated group of Instructors and RSOs (all of which are club member volunteers) I would like to extend our "THANKS" to each of them.

Chuck Wildzunas
President



“Before a standing army can rule, the people must be disarmed, as they are in almost every country in Europe.” – Noah Webster



Next Member Meeting



**Savannah –
Tuesday Sept 21st
– 6:45 to 8:15 pm.
Doors open at
6:00pm. Donor**

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



**Eisenhower – Monday,
Sept 27th - 6:30 to 8:00 pm.
Doors open at 5:30pm.
Donor Award: Ruger**

Mark IV .22 cal with two 10-round magazines.

September Topic: Guns that Changed History

Warped Gun Control

By Your Legislative Action Committee

Chicago Police Officer Ella French

On August 5th Chicago Police Officer Ella French and her partner were shot in Chicago by a convicted felon during a traffic stop using a gun purchased by a “Straw Purchaser” from Indiana. Officer French died and her partner has serious brain damage. Law enforcement quickly ID’d the gun and the purchaser who was arrested on a federal gun law violation. The US Federal Magistrate Judge Jeffery Gilbert released the Straw Purchaser on a \$4500 unsecured bond. The car used in the shooting was also owned by the gun purchaser.

The shooter and his brother were arrested and are being held without bond. The gun used was a Glock 44 .22 and both officers were shot in the head, since



they knew that a .22 bullet would not penetrate the officers' body armor. It should also be noted that CPD now requires paperwork if you draw your weapon

on duty. This could have affected the officer's response to the traffic stop and is contrary to standard police training.

So called experts in this area will tell us that it is next to impossible to stop straw purchases, but why are people arrested for this federal law allowed to go free especially for a murder. It is a felony to lie on the ATF form 4473 when purchasing a gun. (Unless you are Hunter BIDen.)

Many current politicians want to restrict law abiding citizens from purchasing and owning firearms, yet two branches of our government, executive and judicial are not fully enforcing current gun laws but instead are handing out light sentences, releasing felons early or limiting time tested police tactics.

The consequences are very light, so where is the deterrence? Human nature has not changed over time and humans respond to actions or lack of actions.



We need to enforce current laws and demand strong bonds and sentences to save lives in our cities.

We have had mass shooters legally purchase guns that should have been stopped, but the background check system is flawed. The FBI, ATF and local

governments are not administrating the systems properly.

Afghanistan



The BIDen Administration closed the Bagram Air Base in Afghanistan on July 5th, leaving in the middle of the night without informing the Afghan military or our NATO allies. All the military equipment was left for the Afghans and the Taliban took over the base and all its equipment.

At least 600,000+ Small arms M9, M4, M16, M249 SAWs, M24 Sniper Systems, 50 Calibers, 1,394 M203 Grenade Launchers, M134 Mini Gun, 20mm Gatling Guns and countless ammunition.



These 358,000+ M4/M-16 automatic rifles have been seen in pictures of Taliban fighters. So, the Taliban gets to replace its 40-year-old AK-47's with new US supplied weapons. What are the chances that these automatic weapons will enter the US through our open borders and used to attack us?

It should be noted that Russian manufactures and markets NATO 5.56mm ammo under the names Tula, Wolf, and Red Army, so the Taliban will not have any issues with getting ammo after the US supply is used. Think before purchasing these brands, but at this writing, BIDen has stopped the import of Russian ammo and arms into the US.

And of course, BIDen is pushing to ban semi-automatic rifles in the US, limiting us from defending ourselves against these automatic weapons he gave to terrorists, just like the Taliban going door to door collecting weapons from the Afghan citizens.

Conclusion



It's time for all of us to get vocal on our government's bad policies, in all branches of the

government. We are sheep dogs defending our families, communities, and country from evil people, foreign and domestic. Talk to everyone you know about everything bad that is going on our communities and our country. Let them know elections have consequences, it's the right thing to do. And wear your pro-gun apparel with pride, believe us, people notice and will comment.

Confronting the Mass Shooter Threat

Edited from a Previous Issue of The Reticle

A powerful presentation on Active Shooter Events (ASE) was presented at previous Club meetings by Terry Marksberry. Here is a summary of that presentation:



Who are these people? Is the AR-15 the only thing we need to worry about? And how do we react during an ASE?

The presentation was divided into two main sections. Part 1: What Not to Do and Part 2: What You Can Do.

The preface addresses the ASE details, magazine capacity controversy, what other types of guns have been used, Gun-Free Zones, victim responses, universal background checks, and Terrorists & No Fly lists.

First up, What Not to do!

The presentation is based on data, some definitions and trend analysis and the Threshold of Violence Theory, which is the measure of social process of ASE which encourages copycat attacks.

The events by location might surprise you. The publicity is mostly on school shootings, but that is not the largest location type. Another is Event Resolution, that is, how did the event end. Only 31% were by Law Enforcement. Suicide was the

largest outcome. You might be surprised that 15% were resolved by the victims, something you rarely hear about in the news. The Police just cannot make it to an event site quick enough to stop it in the early moments.

Magazine capacity: the short version is that prohibiting larger magazines are not likely to stop the events or extent of victims. A case can be made that larger magazine capacity may terminate an ASE simply because the gun jams and most of the shooters are not skilled in use of the gun and quickly reloading.

Next is the type of gun. Listening to the news media, you could believe that the AR-



15 is the only weapon used. However, most are handguns and even then, the Virginia Tech ASE shooter used a .22 caliber handgun.

Gun Free Zones: do they really prevent an ASE? Up to 85% of the ASEs are in gun free zones. Mass shooters seek them out because, well, there are no guns there to shoot back!

Does fighting back make a difference? Yes!



Previously we mentioned that 15% of the victims fought back. However, the percentage could be higher if you include

those who fought back by barricading themselves until help arrived. In other words, you need to know what to do. More on this later.

Universal Background Checks: there is a clamor to plug the holes. There are few ways to legally purchase a gun without a background check. One is a private party sale, yet not one of the 50 ASEs since Columbine did the mass shooter obtain the guns this way. Another proposal is to prohibit anyone on the Terror Watch and No-Fly list from purchasing a firearm. Well, of the 1 million people

on the Terrorist Screening Database (TSDB), only 81,000 are on the No-Fly list (as subset of the TSDB). There seems to be no or few guidelines as to who is put on the list and how to get off if you were put on it. The Government keeps this a closely guarded secret. Yet, none of the mass shooters were on these lists.

Part 2: What You Can Do?



To counter a threat, know the signs as discussed in the presentation. There are direct and indirect indicators including social media postings that can forewarn a potential ASE.

Here is an interesting discussion: Run, Hide, Fight – this is what we are all told to do.



However, this is not a linear sequence. Depending on what happens when you are directly involved, it might be Fight, Run, Hide. Remember fighting back can include barricading yourself and others from the mass shooter. Fight back early in an ASE can stop it reducing victims and saving yourself. How many of us practice shooting at a moving target? Going to ReLoad Gun Range and practicing in the simulator will open your eyes. Hence the Inverse Square Law used in physics and real life. Running puts distance between you and the shooter making it harder to be hit. Running laterally or diagonally also makes it harder to be shot. Hiding: there is a right and wrong way to do this as noted in the presentation. Lastly, fighting back with whatever you have at your disposal. Pause a moment to look at your surroundings and you may be surprised what can be used as a weapon to fight back if you are not carrying a firearm.



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)



“TWO MISUNDERSTOOD WORDS!”

“SURPRISE!”



“Practice what you preach!” That’s what my Pappy kept telling me every time he caught me being a less than stellar representative of what was coming out of my mouth. I have to admit that I still find myself being a bit hypocritical, even at the “I-should-know-



better” age of 75. A great example of this is the use of the word “surprise” at the range. As an instructor, I say it to my students all the time but don’t employ it as a shooter because I hate not knowing exactly when my shot is going to break. The last thing I want is to be “surprised”. Let me explain:

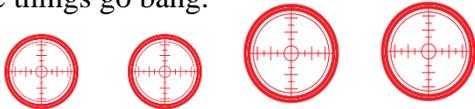
Instructors desperately want their students to go easy on the trigger.....it’s so very important in marksmanship that they avoid “making” the shot happen. If they instinctively react and quickly press the trigger the Nano-second they see the sights line up, unless they’re a really advanced shooter, they’re probably going to jerk the trigger (usually low and left for a right-hander) just enough to throw the shot off. It doesn’t take much. So we often tell them to squeeze the trigger back UNTIL it goes off. AS IF it were a surprise. That way they’re taking as much of themselves as possible out of the equation. But the reality is, in attempting to shoot as precisely as possible, you want to know exactly when that sucker is going to break so that you’re in complete control. You also want to remain consistent and be able to



repeat the same drill from shot to shot. So by all means, practice pressing back that trigger until it goes off LIKE a surprise, but know your gun(s) well enough that you understand exactly when the trigger is

going to make things go bang.

“RELAX!”



Ah tension! It’s a regular visitor at the range to both experienced shooters as well as newbies. So when an instructor sees a student tense up before a shot, the teacher has a bit of a dilemma. If they tell the student to “relax”, the shooter often lets down on the “good” energy as well. There certainly should be a great deal of strength applied when you’re about to shoot anything from about a 9mm on up, in order to control recoil and get back on target quickly. This can be a



life-saving skill to learn with a defensive pistol. But the strength and “tension” can’t apply to the trigger finger or even your brain. Stay calm - do the right kind of

pull with the trigger (see “Surprise” above) – and lock in that shot with a strong amount of push-pull. (For a right handed shooter, about 70 percent with the support hand and about 30 per cent with the strong hand. The support hand/arm/shoulder should be doing most of the work, leaving the strong hand with less tension surrounding the trigger finger.) If you’re confused by this, have an instructor show you how it’s done. Using tension correctly and combining it with a terrific grip, will go a long way towards making that firearm behave.

If you lined up ten instructors in the same room (what a horrible thought!) and asked them to describe the same shooting technique without hearing each other’s explanation, you’ll probably listen to ten different versions of the same thing. That’s human nature. It will be up to you to translate and make sense of it all.

If you don’t understand, be sure to tell them that. A good instructor won’t be insulted. They’re there to help you understand and improve.

“The right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed. A well-regulated militia, composed of the body of the people, trained to arms, is the best and most natural defense of a free country.” – James Madison



“Our nation was built and civilized by men and women who used guns in self-defense and in pursuit of peace. One wonders indeed, if the rising crime rate, isn't due as much as anything to the criminal's instinctive knowledge that the average victim no longer has means of self-protection.” Ronald Reagan



The Reticle®

A monthly publication of The Villages Straight Shooters, LLC

vssnewsletter@gmail.com

Layout & Design, Mike Plocharczyk

Electronic (PDF) copies of The Reticle available at:

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