



Tactical Talk

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"Rightful liberty is unobstructed action, according to our will, within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others."

-- Thomas Jefferson

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Instructor Training

On March 6-7, 2010, Rangemaster will conduct a two-day Advanced Firearms Instructor Development School, in Memphis. Attendance is limited to those who have graduated from our Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development & Certification Course prior. We ran this course earlier in 2009, and it was a blast. We were able to push the envelope a bit, shooting skill wise, and refine the teaching/coaching abilities of the trainers who participated.

We will also be conducting a Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development & Certification Course in Woodbury, GA, on April 9-11, 2010. The facility in Woodbury, Georgia, is a very nice one, with a modern indoor classroom and a spacious outdoor firing range. Woodbury is about an hour and a half south of Atlanta, and we expect to have students from all over the Southeast in this class. To register, call Lynn at 901-370-5600. We'll also be conducting the Three-Day Instructor Course in Culpeper, Virginia, on April 30-May 2, 2010.

We recently conducted this Three-Day Firearms Instructor Course in Oklahoma City. We had 19 students, of which almost half were law enforcement firearms instructors from various agencies. This was a great class. A very high skill level was displayed by the students, and this made a very enjoyable class for staff and students alike. Tom was assisted by Lynn Givens and John Hearne of our staff for this class.



Rangemaster conducted classes all over Texas, Oklahoma, Georgia, and other locations in 2009. Here, a young lady Texan shows the men how it's done.



Rangemaster held a Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development & Certification Course in Oklahoma City this Fall. We'll be conducting this course in 2010 in Memphis, Oklahoma City, Culpeper, VA, and Woodbury, GA. Check www.rangemaster.com for dates.



Rangemaster
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	DVD: “Concealed Carry for Self Defense”	\$34.95	
	DVD: “Defensive Shotgun”	\$29.95	
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More Religion and Self Defense

Last month we pointed out that the actual 6th Commandment is “Thou shall do no murder.”, not “Thou shall not kill.” Here are some more comments, from pretty widely disparate sources:

"If someone has a gun and is trying to kill you, it would be reasonable to shoot back with your own gun." — Dalai Lama (Seattle Times, 05-15-2001).

Even essentially pacifist religions do not require one to stand there and let people murder him.

This is from the Catholic Church- <http://www.vatican.va/archive/catechism/p3s2c2a5.htm>

There's a section on "Legitimate Defense":

2265 Legitimate defense can be not only a right but a grave duty for one who is responsible for the lives of others. The defense of the common good requires that an unjust aggressor be rendered unable to cause harm. For this reason, those who legitimately hold authority also have the right to use arms to repel aggressors against the civil community entrusted to their responsibility.



For those of you who carry a full size service pistol concealed, you might want to contact John Ralston at 5 Shot Leather (www.5shotleather.com/). I have been wearing a Glock 35, which is a fairly large pistol, in John's excellent IBS inside waistband leather holster. The rig is comfortable, very secure, and quite fast. John's turn around time on orders is quite reasonable and the work is absolutely top notch.



"Inside Burton Special"
inside waistband holster from 5-Shot Leather.



One-on-one professional instruction is available at Rangemaster by appointment. The fee is \$65.00 per hour, and the content can vary from familiarization with a new handgun, to brushing up on rusty skills, to refining some particular skill you wish to work on.

Shotgun Ammunition Carriers

By Tom Givens

In the last issue, we looked at shortening the length of pull (LOP) of your defensive shotgun. I am convinced that shortening the factory LOP of your shotgun is the single greatest aid to quickly, reliably and comfortably running your gun with heavy buckshot and slug loads. A LOP of about 12"-12.5" for small folks, and 12.5"-13" for larger people works great.

This month, I'd like to look at managing ammunition for a shotgun kept for home/business defense. A theoretical drawback of the combat shotgun is limited ammunition capacity. I say "theoretical" because the vast majority of shotgun engagements are over in 1-3 shots, but of course, there are exceptions. With the proliferation of multiple suspect home invasions, the ability to keep the gun firing beyond 3-4 rounds could be the difference between winning and losing.

Since the Remington 870 is the single most common shotgun in American homes, I'll structure these comments around that model, but the same principles apply to any typical pump or semi-auto defensive shotgun. The 870 comes standard with a four shot magazine, but the variations actually intended for defensive use can be bought with an extended magazine tube, that holds six rounds. In either case, for long term storage, the magazine should be downloaded by one round, to avoid spring fatigue. The coil spring in the shotgun's magazine tube is a much thinner wire than the springs in pistol magazines. Since the shotgun is often left magazine loaded for extended periods, I think it is best to avoid compressing the magazine spring fully. So, a shotgun with four shot magazine would be kept in the closet with only three rounds in the magazine tube. This is why the gun needs to have additional ammunition mounted on it.

Extra ammo should ideally be on the gun itself. Typically, a homeowner is awakened by the sounds of a break-in, rolls out of bed, and grabs the shotgun from its storage site. Few people sleep with extra shotgun rounds on their person! There should, therefore, be enough ammo in/on the shotgun to sustain us through the action. There are two common methods for attaching spare ammo to the gun.

My preferred method is the butt-cuff, a simple device attached to the butt of the shotgun, with elastic or leather loops that hold five or six shotgun shells at the ready. These can be expensive lace-on leather cuffs, or simple, inexpensive elastic nylon or neoprene devices. If you use the pull-on elastic type, as I do, you might want to put a couple of wood screws through the butt-cuff, into the stock. This keeps the butt-cuff from crawling forward under recoil when firing the gun.

Another option is the side-saddle, a device which clamps onto the left side of the shotgun's receiver, and holds shells ready for quick loading. I'm not a fan of the side-saddle, but a lot of knowledgeable shooters are. You pick the device that works best for you.

With 3-5 rounds in the gun, depending on magazine capacity, plus 5-6 more in the butt-cuff or side-saddle, one should have enough ammo to carry him through the night.



Butt cuff mounted on Remington 870. This puts five extra buckshot rounds at the user's fingertips.

Serpa Holster Information

The following was sent to me by another firearms instructor.

At a recent Summer Firearms training I witnessed an officer practicing the support hand (only) reload and stoppage drills. The officer had inserted his G21 reversed, into his Serpa holster and was unable to draw it out, until the holster had been partially disassembled. A screw was removed and a part of the holster fell out, allowing the pistol to be drawn.

I mentioned this to a list member who reported the following regarding Glock pistols, and I've subsequently had notice of the same circumstance taking place with a S&W M&P.

From a technical evaluator:

"I was able to duplicate the problem. Look inside the empty holster. Along the back wall, there's a plastic bar that starts in front of the trigger guard and ends about halfway to the bottom of the holster. As the gun is inserted, that bar is compressed against the holster body by the dust cover, creating a friction fit. If you insert the gun upside down as described, that lever is compressed first by the front sight, then by the balance of the slide, creating the same friction fit. The trouble starts after the front sight clears the end of that bar. The front sight is taller than the slide, and after the end of the bar clears the front sight, the bar snaps down onto the slide. When you try to pull the gun back out, the bar catches the front sight, locking the gun in place. You can correct the problem by removing the screw that holds the bar in place, or you can slide a long narrow paddle of some sort in to raise the bar above the front sight allowing it to clear.

Fatal flaw: This cannot be corrected while in the fight. The gun is stuck. I could duplicate this holster failure with Glocks 17, 21, and 23 and the appropriate Serpa for each. Unknown how other designs might be impacted. If users insist on keeping the Serpa, they must not employ this particular method of reloading the gun. There are many other, high quality, holster options which have no such problems."

The December 2009/January 2010 issue of *Guns & Ammo Handguns* magazine contains an article by Dave Spaulding on the standards and training philosophy of nine of the top firearms schools in the United States. Rangemaster was included in that list of top schools, and Spaulding goes into some detail about what we teach, and as importantly, why we teach it the way we do.

Dave Spaulding is a well known trainer and gun writer. He retired from the sheriff's office in Dayton, Ohio, after a long and distinguished law enforcement career, and writes for several national shooting magazines and law enforcement publications. You can find a copy of this magazine at the grocery store, or contact www.handgunsmag.com. You might be interested to read how our training and standards compare to those of other nationally recognized schools.





Class Announcement

Dates: 30-31 January 2010

Cost: \$400

\$200 Deposit to Register

Balance due by 15-Jan-10

Instructor: Todd Louis Green

Location: Memphis, TN

Facility: Rangemaster

Class size: maximum 16

Class Description: Aim Fast, Hit Fast is intended to pick up where most marksmanship training ends. All shooting involves a balance between **accuracy** and **speed**. Away from the practice range, a shooter does not get to choose how much time he will get to break a shot ... shooting becomes reactive and all timeframes are determined by the situation rather than comfort or habit. The goal of this class is twofold. First, we will come to understand the **critical balance between accuracy and speed** for each individual shooter. Second, we will improve each shooter's ability to **deliver accurate, rapid fire** in shorter timeframes to maximize his effectiveness shooting a pistol **under stress**. Skills to be covered include marksmanship, presentation from the holster, reloads, multiple targets, and shooting on the move.

Prerequisites: This is a fast-paced class suited to shooters who have already achieved proficiency with a handgun. At a minimum, prospective students should be capable of performing the following drill(s) on demand:

- Fire and hit a 3×5 card at 5 yards on demand (both double and single action as appropriate)
- Draw, fire 1 round, reload, fire 2 rounds (3 hits on 8" circle) at 7 yards in eight seconds

Individuals who cannot meet these requirements at the beginning of class will not be able to keep up with the fast and demanding pace of instruction.

Equipment Needed:

- Reliable semiauto handgun
- Duty, range, or concealment holster with suitable gunbelt
- Enough magazines, pouches, etc., to carry a minimum of 50 rounds to the firing line
- Minimum 1,000 rounds of ammunition (1,200+ recommended; bring more, shoot more)
- Wrap-around eye protection; ear protection; brimmed hat

Instructor: Todd Louis Green has worked in the firearms industry since 1998, including instructing for the NRA Range, Beretta, and SIG-Sauer. He has over 1,000 hours of firearms and combatives training from such prestigious trainers as Ken Hackathorn, Ernest Langdon, Larry Vickers, SIG Academy, and Blackwater. A 3-time "Advanced" rated shooter at Rogers Shooting School, Todd is also a graduate of the NRA Tactical Pistol Instructor Development program and a 3 division Master-ranked IDPA competitor. Todd is a certified SIGARMS, Beretta, and Glock armorer; certified Simunition force-on-force instructor; and certified Emergency First Responder. He is also a long time member of IALEFI, IDPA, and USPSA.

Please contact Tom Givens (rangemaster.tom@gmail.com) with any questions or to reserve your spot for this course.

Rangemaster is proud to announce a defensive knife course to be taught by our good friend and esteemed colleague, Southnarc, at Rangemaster. Just about everyone carries a knife of some sort, but very, very few have any idea what to do with one in a defensive emergency. This course will teach you how to effectively deploy a small knife, or other improvised weapons that may be within your grasp in a criminal attack.

EDGED WEAPONS OVERVIEW

Instructor: Southnarc

Date: Feb 13-14, 2010 (Sat-Sun, 9am-6pm)

Cost: \$300.00

Registration: Contact Lynn at 901-370-5600

Location: Rangemaster, 2611 S. Mendenhall Rd, Memphis, TN 38115

The **Edged Weapons Overview** course is a 16 hour focused **overview** of knife application methods that will give the student a fundamental and broad understanding of **edged weapons**. Like all ShivWorks courses EWO is contextually underscored and emphasizes conceptual framework applied through the minimalist, functional toolbox. All software is presented from the “reductionist’s” point of view to maximize retention and maintenance efficiency. Topics to be covered in the course include:

Day One:

The Criminal Assault Paradigm
Managing Unknown Contacts
Default Position and basic blows
Tool Survey
Robust Folder Deployment
Theory of In-Fight **Weapons** Access
In-Extremis application

Day Two:

Mobility and Zoning Issues of equal initiative encounters
Plyometric Fighting Platform
Point Theory, forward and reverse grip
Conventional Edge introduction
Refining the narrow angle
Reverse Edge introduction
The Functional Support Hand
Specialty and Improvised **Edged** tools (push daggers, icepicks, screwdrivers, etc.). This module is largely based on what students bring to the class and wish to see addressed.

Equipment Required: Comfortable clothes, wrap-around eye protection, mouthpiece and cup, preferred carry knives.

Equipment recommended: Any training knives, folding or fixed the student may have along with their standard everyday carry gear, such as holsters or magazine pouches. A “red” or “blue” dummy gun is acceptable but **NO LIVE FIREARMS ARE PERMITTED IN THE TRAINING ENVIRONMENT.**

ShivWorks courses are mildly anaerobic in nature and the student should come with the understanding that they will be subjected to mild to greater than mild impact as part of the coursework.

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www.rangemaster.com

Armed Pilots— Nothing New

A lot of people labor under the mistaken notion that allowing airline pilots to go armed is a revolutionary new idea spawned by the terrorist attacks of 9/11. Wrong! In the 1920's through the 1950's, it was very common for airline pilots to be armed. Like the captain of a ship, the captain of the airliner was not only in ultimate command of the ship, he was held responsible for the safety, security, and well being of his ship and its passengers. Especially on overseas flights, the pilot was armed to protect the airship, its crew, and its passengers, as well as to enforce his command authority. Here is a Colt handgun advertisement from a magazine in the 1930's.

it wasn't until the 1960's and 1970's that personal responsibility became a foreign concept in this country.



**Your hand
is steadier
with a COLT**

THE Colt Super .38 Automatic Pistol, shown above, is "flying companion" of every Transcontinental and Western Airways pilot. Colts are selected for this important service because, on the "Lindbergh Line" none but the safest and most dependable equipment will do. The Colt Super .38, built on the same frame as the famous Government Model .45 Automatic, enjoys the endorsement of fire arms experts because, like every Colt Revolver and Automatic Pistol, each piece of material and step of manufacture must pass the most rigid tests and inspections that 95 years of precision craftsmanship can devise. The Colt Super .38 with the .38 Colt automatic cartridge (muzzle velocity 1190 feet per second) is the most powerful shooting of all Colt arms. Like the Colt .45 Automatic it has both the Colt Automatic Grip Safety and Colt Manual Slide Lock—effective protection against accidental discharge.

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