



Tactical Talk

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"Guard with jealous attention the public liberty. Suspect every one who approaches that jewel. Unfortunately, nothing will preserve it but downright force. Whenever you give up that force, you are inevitably ruined."

— Patrick Henry,
speech of
June 5, 1788

Inside this issue:

<i>Advanced Firearms Instructor Course</i>	2
<i>Givens article</i>	4
<i>Defensive Shotgun Course</i>	7
<i>2013 Off-Site Courses & Events</i>	8
<i>Information Sources</i>	10
<i>Harper article</i>	11

Rottweiler Attack Foiled!



Here is a report I received from a student and friend in Bartlett. He routinely goes armed, as he should. On Nov 8th that turned out to be a very good thing!

“Just as a FYI: Fortunately, I didn't have to draw down on a human being this time: I was out for my walk last night, when I got attacked by a Rottweiler. The police later said that it was 70 to 80 pounds. I kept trying to back away, and kept shouting for it to stop, but it wouldn't stop. I eventually pulled my pistol, kept backing away, and kept shouting for it to stop, but it wouldn't stop: I even backed into and knocked over a mail box, screaming for it to stop, but it wouldn't stop....at that point, I was afraid I was going to be mauled to death (we've had a LOT of people in Memphis killed by Rotts and Pits). The family was on their porch, but made no effort to stop the dog that I was aware of.

I had no choice except to shoot it: I fired one time, striking it once: It ran away. I immediately holstered my pistol, and immediately called 911 to say that I had been attacked. The police were there in about a minute. They interviewed me, and then interviewed the family, who rushed the dog around the corner to the vet. The good news is, the dog is going to be ok....the shot went through the neck, but didn't hit anything major. I wasn't hurt.

The officers gave me my pistol and knife back, and said that no charges would be filed, as it was legitimate self-defense. If I had NOT been armed, I wouldn't be here talking to you now.....”

Advanced Firearms Instructor Course

February 9-10, 2013

On Feb 9-10, 2013, Rangemaster will conduct our annual Advanced Firearms Instructor Course here at the home range in Memphis. Our range is heated, and the range and classroom are in the same building, so February weather won't matter.

This is a two-day, Sat-Sun course that takes up where the Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development Course ends. There is classroom instruction, plus a lot of intensive work on the range. Students receive a workbook with lots of valuable information and each fires about 800 rounds of ammunition. Topics covered include:

- ◆ Range Safety, managing risks and emergency trauma aid;
- ◆ Scoring Methods, including Time Limits, Par Times, Vickers Count, and Comstock Count and their proper uses;
- ◆ Target design and selection;
- ◆ Advanced skill drills;
- ◆ Ready Positions and their selection/deployment; and
- ◆ Criminal Psychology.

Entry to this course is strictly limited to those who have successfully completed our Firearms Instructor Development Course. This assures that everyone is on the same page and has the requisite skill level. Tuition is only \$289.00. Ammo is available for purchase here. Call 901-370-5600 to register.





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Quantity	Product	Price	Total
	Book: “Fighting Smarter” 3 rd Edition	\$29.95	
	DVD: “Concealed Carry for Self Defense”	\$22.95	
	DVD: “Defensive Shotgun”	\$22.95	
Subtotal			
Shipping (\$3.00 per DVD, \$4.00 per Book)			
Order Total			

Billing Information	Shipping Information (If Different)
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
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Mental Preparation for Self Defense

By Tom Givens

Many people, including many who have a carry permit, are not sufficiently prepared to mentally deal with the reality of a criminal attack. Simply owning a gun is not enough. One needs to accept the actual threat level that exists, and be mentally prepared to act in defense of self or family.

For many years I worked as an investigator, and I had a lot of opportunity to speak with crime victims. In addition to asking the relevant questions about the crime, I used these opportunities to inquire about the mental state of the victim at the time of the attack. I found that a very large percentage of these victims had one of two thoughts going on in their minds when they were attacked. These thoughts were "I can't believe this is happening" or "Why would someone want to hurt me?". These questions leave the victim in a mental denial loop that freezes them into inaction, and wastes the precious seconds in which they could have defended themselves. Let's look at the thoughts separately.

"I can't believe this is happening!" This is the result of not knowing the actual threat level, and of continually convincing themselves that violent crime only happens to other people. Well, guess what? To everyone else on the planet, YOU are "other people"!

The Bureau of Justice Statistics is a research unit within the U.S. Department of Justice. For the year 2006, the BJS says that in the United States there were 5,685,620 violent crimes (Murder, Aggravated Assault, Robbery and Forcible Rape). That's right, over 5.6 million, of just these crimes. That is one serious violent crime for every 54 people in the country. I often hear permit holders say, "The odds of me needing my gun are 1 in a million.". Wrong! The odds are 1 in 54, just for the four violent crimes listed here.

The BJS recently released the figures for 2011, showing an increase in these violent crimes nationwide. In 2011, there were 5.8 million violent crimes, a 17% increase over 2010. Urban areas experienced 1 violent crime per 37 persons. Suburban areas had 1 violent crime per 50 residents.

That is a national statistic, however, so let's look at Tennessee, specifically. According to the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), in 2011 there were 582,893 crimes reported in Tennessee, with a population of 6,403,353. That is roughly one crime for every eleven Tennesseans. That includes all crime, however. The crimes you would use a firearm to defend against involve violence and the possibility of death or serious injury to the victim. Here are some of those crime totals for Tennessee in 2011, with the clearance rate in parentheses.

Murder	390	(264)
Aggravated Assault	28,802	(16,811)
Kidnap/Abduction	1,175	(598)
Robbery	8,168	(2,246)
Forcible Rape	2,131	(839)
Forcible Sodomy	532	(243)
Sexual Assault with Object	273	(85)
TOTAL=	41,471	in Tennessee, in 2011 alone.

That is an average of 114 of these serious violent crimes EVERY DAY, just in the state of Tennessee. So, as you can see, the odds of needing your handgun are not that remote. Instead of "I can't believe this is happening!", your mental response must be "I knew this might happen, now I must deal with it!". If we truly accept the fact that violent crime can occur anywhere, at any time, we can avoid that denial loop and instead, immediately act to defend ourselves.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

“Why would anybody want to hurt me?” This is the other thoroughly irrelevant question. Actually, whether the attacker is a gang member seeking higher status, or a career criminal who thinks working is for suckers, or a mentally deranged person, or someone with a real or imagined grievance against you—it doesn’t matter! The only relevant issue is that he is trying to hurt or kill you and you must make him stop. Later, in safety, his motivations can be dissected, but right now he must be stopped. Now, let’s look at some other mental issues.

“I only carry my gun when I might need it.” So, you truly believe that you can foretell the future? You and I need to go to Las Vegas! I’ll make certain that nothing bad happens to you, and we’ll split your winnings.

As of May, 2012, we had our 60th Rangemaster student involved in an incident in which he/she had to use a handgun in self defense. Not one of those students got out of bed on the fateful day thinking they would need a gun that day, but they all did need one. In 58 of those incidents, the student won the fight, and only 3 were injured. To the best of my knowledge, however, two Rangemaster students have been murdered, after taking some training with us. Both were killed in separate street robberies. Essentially, they were executed for the contents of their pockets. What else did these two have in common? They were not armed on that day. Both decided that they would not need a gun that day, both were wrong, and both are dead. Let’s see, 58 out of 58 who were armed won, and 2 out of 2 who were unarmed lost and died. I don’t know about you, but I see a clue imbedded there.

“I only carry my gun when I go to _____” This is a variation of the previous mistake. That means that when you carry a gun, you are actually going somewhere where you think you might need a gun. Why go there?

“I have a gun with me, that takes care of everything.” It would be great if things were that simple, but they are not. Your gun will not observe or identify a potential threat. Your gun will not jump out of the holster and defend you. In fact, your gun will not do anything. YOU must do things for yourself. The gun is only a tool.

When in public, always pay attention to the people around you. Look for persons, behavior, or circumstances that appear to be out of place, unusual, unexplained, and therefore, suspicious. Any time you see something or someone who looks out of place, ask yourself, “Why?”. Why is that guy leaned against the wall in the parking garage? Why have I seen that same man in the last three shops in the mall? Why are those two men in “thug wear” sitting in that parked car on the lot? Why is that man just standing there 10 feet from an ATM? Criminals are not invisible and they do not beam down out of the Mother Ship to attack. Get your head up, open your eyes, see what is around you. When out in public, you should be able to answer two questions at any given moment: “Who is around me?” “What are they doing?”.

If you plan to carry a handgun for self defense, I strongly urge you to obtain a copy of Principles of Personal Defense by Jeff Cooper, available on Amazon quite cheaply. This short book is actually an essay Jeff wrote in the 1960’s, but it is 100% relevant today. Read it about once a year to keep your mental attitude focused and sharp.

Accept that violence happens to good people. Accept that violence can occur anywhere there are people. Accept that when violence comes to you, only you can protect yourself. You are actually the first responder.

Tennessee Permit Numbers

The Tennessee Department of Safety recently released figures on the number of active Handgun Carry Permits in the state. As of November 1, 2012, there were 376,050 permits in the state. Of those, Shelby County residents accounted for 47,441 permits.



The entire Rangemaster training cadre wishes you and yours a Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year!



Defensive Shotgun Course

January 12-13, 2013

Saturday-Sunday

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. both days

The short barreled shotgun is a premiere home or business defense weapon, and could be an invaluable resource in a post-disaster scenario, as happened after Hurricane Katrina. To maximize its utility and effectiveness, one needs some training in its selection, modification, ammunition selection, and deployment.

Rangemaster will conduct a two-day Defensive Shotgun Course in January on our indoor range. Cost is only \$229, and we supply ALL of the needed ammunition for this class. We will have properly set up loaner guns for those who don't have one yet. Call 901-370-5600 to register.



The Tactical Conference will be at Rangemaster, Memphis, on 1-3 March 2013. Here is a pic of the trainers from the 2010 conference. This group includes John Farnam, Massad Ayoob, Southnarc, Todd Louis Green, Wayne Dobbs, Marty Hayes, Tom Givens, and a lot of other talented trainers from all over the US. The 2013 conference includes most of these trainers plus some new additions. Register soon, as space is filling up rapidly .

2013 Special Events & Rangemaster Off-Site Courses

JAN 18-20 Instructor Development Course Tucson, AZ contact Dan Southard 520-458-7474
1961berlin@gmail.com

FEB 9-10 Advanced Instructor Course Rangemaster, Memphis, 901-370-5600 to register

FEB 23-24 Combative Pistol I, New Orleans, LA contact Brannon LeBouef 504-982-5433 wiliam@nolatac.com

MARCH 1-3 Tactical Conference Rangemaster, Memphis

MARCH 8-10 Instructor Course, Florence, SC contact Richard Wright
843-229-2629 labradorone@bellsouth.net

MARCH 22-24 Instructor Course, KR Training, Austin, TX
Contact Karl Rehn, 512-633-8232
rehn@krtraining.info

APRIL 20-21 Combative Pistol Titusville, FL
American Police Hall of Fame
Contact Paul Pawela 321-264-0911 range@aphf.org

APRIL 27-28 Combative Pistol Ft Meade, FL
contact Jim Clark 813-719-0091

May 4-5 Dynamic Marksmanship, West Elkton, Ohio

May 6 Defensive Shotgun, West Elkton, Ohio

contact John Farquhar

937-787-4414 513-503-1367

johndavidfarquhar@frontier.com

MAY 18-19 Combative Pistol,
Nappanee, IN contact Steve
Clay

Sclay896@yahoo.com

May 31- June 2 Combined
Skills, Longview, Texas
(Fri evening, Sat-Sun)

Contact Steve Moses steve_moses@msn.com

JUNE 8-9 Combative Pistol Anchorage, Alaska

Contact Todd Smith gunstartalaska@yahoo.com

JUNE 22-23 Combative Pistol 1, Rogers, Arkansas

contact Jon Hodoway 479-631-1321 [\[hodoway@yahoo.com\]\(mailto:hodoway@yahoo.com\)](mailto:je-</p></div><div data-bbox=)

JUNE 29-30 Mas Ayoob, MAG-20 at Rangemaster,
Memphis call 901-370-5600 to register



Brass flies at a 2012 class in Ohio

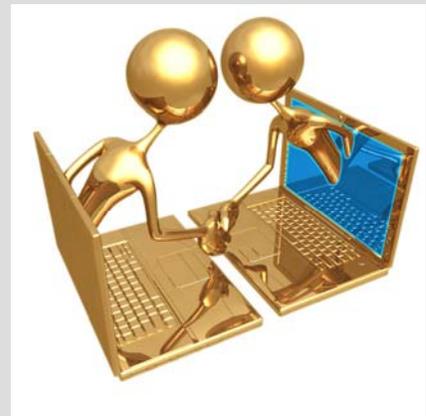
Information Sources

There is a lot of information on self defense topics available on the internet. Unfortunately, much of it is total bull. Here are some reliable sources of information on self defense training, tactics, equipment and techniques.

National Rifle Association (NRA)
11250 Waples Mill Rd
Fairfax, VA, 22030

International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (IALEFI)
390 Union Avenue
Union Square
Laconia, NH, 03246

International Defensive Pistol Association (IDPA)
P.O. Box 639
Berryville, AR, 72616-0639



<http://www.totalprotectioninteractive.com/forum/>

TPI is an internet forum composed of actual professionals and trainers, hosted by our friend and colleague Craig Douglas, better known as "Southnarc". There is a wealth of information available here.

<http://pistol-forum.com>

This is an internet discussion forum hosted by trainer Todd Louis Green. Some very talented trainers and shooters frequent this board and there is a lot of good information here on equipment and technique.

www.rangemaster.com

This is Rangemaster's website. We publish a newsletter every month. On our home page, you can enter your e-mail address and subscribe to our e-mail list, which receives three or four updates each month.

<http://www.defense-training.com/quijs/quijs.html>

This is the home of senior trainer John Farnam's quijs. In addition to being one of the best firearms trainers in the US, John is a historian, a poet, and a true warrior. His wisdom is distilled into "quijs", short essays on a wide variety of subjects.

Criminals: Real life vs. the often popular portrayal

by Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper

Criminals are often portrayed in movies and on TV as bumbling fools. Links to YouTube videos showing inept criminals doing stupid things make the email circuit daily. The myth that criminals turn to crime as a last resort to pay the bills or feed their children is still popular. And the concept that people commit a criminal act because they “just snapped” has been thoroughly debunked by serious psychological studies of criminals.

All of these portrayals, myths, and popular concepts can lull law-abiding citizens into a kind of stupor when it comes to defending themselves against thugs. To be sure, there are incompetent criminals; after all, there are incompetent people in all walks of life, so why should the criminal element be any different? However, the facts are clear: criminals are quite accomplished in their chosen field and we need to be prepared to deal with them from a position of strength.

My assertion of criminal competence is based on a review of two sources: an analysis of a series of FBI studies regarding violent criminals and their encounters with law enforcement that was conducted by veteran Federal Law Enforcement Officer, John E. Hearne and a recent article that appeared in *Concealed Carry Magazine* written by another veteran officer, Greg Ellifritz of Ohio. While neither are perfect “scientific studies,” both provide strong indications that criminals are competent and well-prepared to accomplish their goals of preying on citizens. Here’s what I gleaned from their work:

Thugs are experienced: According to the FBI, criminals interviewed for these studies have a family history of violent crime, a history of family and personal drug/alcohol abuse, have typically started their criminal career at age 11 and have been in the judicial system since age 15. They have a solid background of criminal behavior.

Thugs “practice their trade” regularly: The FBI studies indicate that of those incarcerated for an attack on a law enforcement officer; 28% had been arrested 10 or more times and 68% had been arrested 2 to 5 times. There is a rule of thumb: for each arrest, the thug has committed 12 crimes. In other words, thugs practice their trade. Further, criminals practice their marksmanship. While “practice” may be informal, 81% of the thugs in the FBI studies report practicing regularly with the average frequency of 2 times-per-month.

Thugs are properly equipped: The perception is that thugs use cheap, “Saturday night specials” that are of small caliber; .22’s, 25’s and 32’s, in their work. Often they do. However, Officer Ellifritz’s count of confiscated weapons used in crimes uncovered interesting facts:

- ◆ 57% were quality, name brand guns like Glock, Beretta, and Smith & Wesson.
- ◆ 59% of the guns were fully functional, completely capable of firing
- ◆ 67% were of calibers that are at or above what is considered to be the defensive handgun minimum; .38 special/9mm or bigger

(Continued on page 12)

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(Continued from page 11)

- ◆ 57% were found to be fully loaded with at least FMJ/RNL ammunition and often loaded with quality, hollow-point ammo.

These facts are supported by wider anecdotal evidence from law-enforcement.

So what does this mean for law-abiding citizens?

- ◆ First and foremost, we need to stay alert and not take any encounter with strangers lightly. Criminals are quite good at selecting victims from those who appear to be distracted, pre-occupied or just generally not paying attention to their surroundings. We need to survey the landscape for potential ambush points. Thugs are also expert at closing the distance between you and them so that they can execute the crime. They do this by simple means of engaging you in some kind of conversation; asking for the time, for directions, to ask simple questions of you; even to offer a compliment about your vehicle or manner of dress.
- ◆ We need to be competent marksman. We must practice; doing our dry-fire work and our live-fire exercises.
- ◆ We need to adequately train and then practice learned skills to successfully ward off an attack.
- ◆ We need to have adequate tools to meet the challenge if it should come our way. Teeny, tiny small-caliber pistols are not fighting tools; they are jewelry.
- ◆ And we need to take the attitude of doing everything in our power not to be a victim. We fight if we must.

The thugs are equipped for and skilled at what they do. We should be at least equally prepared.