

MAY 2017

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RANGEMASTER

DEFENSIVE TACTICS
FOR THE REAL WORLD

Firearms Training Services
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Violence BY THE NUMBERS

The US Department of Justice gathers and reports information on a number of crime classifications from all over the United States. They recently released a huge amount of data on homicides occurring during the time period 1976-2005. This is a 29-year period, so there was a lot of data to examine. Below are a few tidbits from that information.

by Tom Givens

Males are almost four times as likely to be murdered as females. Males are also far more likely to be the offender.

MALES were killed by...

Spouse / ex / girlfriend	5%
Other family member	6.8%
Acquaintance / Known person	35.3%
Stranger / Unknown killer	52.9%

FEMALES were killed by...

Spouse / ex / boyfriend	30%
Other family member	11.8%
Acquaintance / Known person	21.3%
Stranger / Unknown killer	36.3%

Gender Dynamics...

Male offender / male victim	65.3%
Male offender / female victim	22.7%
Female offender / male victim	9.6%
Female offender / female victim	2.4%

Victim's Age...

Under 18	9.8%
18-34	52.7%
35-49	22.8%
50+	14.7%

Homicide Circumstances (2005)...

Felony murder*	2,432	15%
Argument	4,787	28%
Gang-related	955	6%
Other**	2,223	13%
Unknown**	6,295	38%
TOTAL	16,692	100%

* Felony murder is a murder committed during the commission of some other felony, such as armed robbery, car-jacking, rape, etc.

** "Other" and "Unknown" accounted for 51% of all homicides. "Other", "Unknown" and "Felony Murder" together comprised 66% (2 out of 3) of these homicides. These are the ones we go armed to prevent.

A Few More Quick Facts...

Each year about 4,400 unidentified human bodies are recovered in the US. About 1,000 remain unidentified after one year. At any given time, there are approximately 100,000 active missing person cases in the US. Many of these are soon found, as they are voluntary disappearances due to marital discord, domestic violence, credit issues, etc. However, several thousand each year disappear without a trace and are never seen again. Obviously, these are undetected homicides that add to the data detailed above. Some researchers place this undetected homicide number at around 30,000 victims a year.

Of course, homicide isn't the only devastating violent crime. The next figures are from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, a branch of the US Department of Justice. These numbers are from 2006, which was a sadly typical year.

Non-fatal Violent Crime ...

Robbery	645,950
Robbery with injury to victim	232,380
Rape ♦	255,630
Aggravated Assault ♦♦	1,209,730

Total Violent Crimes...

5,685,620

(One for every 54 people, or one for every 30 adults in the U.S.)

Time of Attack...

6am - 6pm	52.4%
6pm - Midnight	32.8%
Midnight - 6am	10.9%
Unknown	3.9%

♦ Victim's advocacy groups believe about one rape out of every six is reported to the police. Do the math.

♦♦ Aggravated assault is an assault involving a deadly weapon and/or serious bodily injury to the victim. Many Aggravated Assault victims are permanently disabled, need multiple surgeries, or are permanently disfigured. They just didn't die and become homicides.

Of all these figures, the most important number is one. That's the one chance you'll get to fend off these heinous crimes if your number is ever called. Be prepared. ■

Of all the things people ask me, two questions probably come up more than any others: “What are the really important shooting skills for someone who carries a handgun for self defense?” and “How should I practice to obtain the most benefit?” After great deal of research, investigating shootings, viewing videos of shootings, and talking to other trainers over a 45-year career, I have

by
**Tom
Givens**

THE TEST

come to the conclusion that the two most important shooting related skills are being able to present the gun quickly and efficiently from concealment and getting good, solid, anatomically important hits in as little time as possible. All other skills, such as reloading, malfunction remedies, and so forth trail way behind in importance. In truth, in civil, US self defense shootings these are about the only skills we see used frequently. It follows, therefore, that these are the skills we should be working on the most.

Many of us are limited to ranges that do not allow working from the holster in live fire. This is not as big a deal as some make it, as you can perfect your concealed presentation at home in dry practice. A few minutes of dedicated practice a couple of times a week will keep your presentation quick and efficient. If you can work from the holster on the range, that's great. If not, do your homework.

The other part, getting good hits quickly, requires live fire practice. You must become adept at tracking the sights, managing the trigger (whether you believe in trigger re-set or flipping), recoil control, and cadence (timing). There simply is no substitute for live fire practice to obtain and maintain these skills.

To work on these skills, I suggest a drill that has evolved over the years, but will certainly help you with the skills described in the previous paragraph. This drill originated with Ken Hackathorn, and is used extensively by trainers like Wayne Dobbs, Darryl Bolke, Larry Vickers and others. I like it and use it a lot in my personal practice regimen. Since it is shot from the Ready, it can be used on most indoor ranges.

The target used is an NRA B-8 bullseye target, a B-8 repair center or an FBI-IP1. The FBI bullseye is the same size as a B-8, but does not have an X-ring. Personally, I like the FBI-IP1 the best. If you are using a full-size



B-8 target, anything outside the 7 ring is a miss, as it would be off a full-grown man's chest. Score the targets as printed. In other words, hits in the eight-ring count 8 points; hits in the 10 ring are worth 10 points. If a bullet hole breaks a line, give credit for the higher ring.

This drill involves a total of 30 rounds. You'll fire 10 rounds at 5 yards, 10 rounds at ten yards, and ten rounds at 15 yards. Start each ten-round string from the ready position. Maximum possible score is 300. A score of 270

would be 90%, and anything above 270 is pretty decent shooting.

I often shoot this test cold at the beginning of a practice session, as a skill check. As long as I can shoot 285 or better on this, cold, I feel that I am maintaining my skills. One thing I like about a test like this is that you can precisely measure and track progress, or see if your skills are slipping and more dedicated practice is required. It is also useful to determine if a particular pistol is well suited to your use. Give it a try. ■

THE TEST:

- At 5 yards, fire 10 rounds in 5 seconds.
- At 10 yards, fire 10 rounds in 10 seconds.
- At 15 yards, fire 10 rounds in 15 seconds.

TAC-CON-17 AARs

The 2017 Tactical Conference was conducted on March 17-19 at the expansive facilities of the Direct Action Resource Center (DARC) in Little Rock, Arkansas. DARC is a huge training complex, with multiple ranges, multiple shoot houses, and lots of room. This allowed us to have our largest attendance ever, with lots of live fire and hands on blocks, in addition to classroom training.

There were over 250 attendees, plus 20 Rangemaster staff members and 35 presenters. This year 40 ladies attended, and 25 of them shot the

pistol match. The trainers conducted 48 separate blocks of instruction, in two-, three- and four-hour blocks. Attendees were able to participate in an amazing amount of training over the course of three full days.

Trainers included Massad Ayoob, John Farnam, Southnarc, Tom and Lynn Givens, Greg Ellifritz, Wayne Dobbs, Darryl Bolke, Marty Hayes, John Hearne, and two dozen more. There was live-fire training with handgun and shotgun, airsoft and Simunitions scenarios in the shoot houses, and tons of diverse classroom

instruction. Classroom segments included legal issues, terrorist bombings, instructional technique, active shooters, and much more.

The 2018 event will again be held at DARC, on March 16-18, 2018, Friday through Sunday. To register, visit our Eventbrite page at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tactical-conference-2018-tickets-33492433771> or click the Eventbrite logo. The 2017 event filled up five months in advance, and this one will, as well. Don't procrastinate!

Two very detailed, thoughtful, and unbiased reviews of the training at Tac Con 2017 were posted on the Civilian Gunfighter blog. If you did not attend this year, these posts will give you a very good picture of the training opportunities you missed. They are linked below.

- Tac-Con-17 AAR (Par. 1)
- Tac-Con-17 AAR (Part. 2)



Eventbrite



The Tactical Conference always includes a pistol match, in which we test the skills involved in using a handgun in self defense. The match is shot from concealed carry, with every day carry equipment. Below are the Top Ten scores from each division in the Tactical Conference Match for 2017, out of a total of 207 shooters who chose to compete. Congratulations to all who placed this highly. Great shooting! To see full match results for all 207 shooters, please visit www.Rangemaster.com.



Ladies:

1.	Vicki Farnam	38.67
2.	Tamara Keel	38.72
3.	Melody Lauer	38.78
4.	Lori Bigley	40.07
5.	Lynn Givens	43.50
6.	Gail Pepin	43.98
7.	Suzanne Smith	44.10
8.	Elizabeth Saunders	45.74
9.	Teresa Moeller	50.02
10.	Janeen Wyatt	50.95

Lawman:

1.	Lee Weems	26.03
2.	Massad Ayoob	26.86
3.	Jeremy Harrison	27.28
4.	Ed Monk	29.08
5.	Robert Welch	29.26
6.	Ashley Coon	29.71
7.	Wayne Dobbs	29.91
8.	Paul Sharp	29.92
9.	Michael Monk	30.04
10.	Jerrold Baugh	30.59

Open Division:

1. Kirk Clark 22.78

2.	Jacob Bernal	23.62
3.	John Johnston	24.72
4.	Caleb Blanton	25.06
5.	Dave Reichel	25.90
6.	Lee Weems	26.03
7.	Massad Ayoob	26.86
8.	Joe Seuk	26.97
9.	Jeremy Harrison	27.28
10.	Spencer Keepers	27.31

Sixty tickets sold in the first 24 hours.



Don't miss out!

rangemaster.com/2018-tactical-conference

WHEEL of FORTUNE

by
Tom Givens

A lot of people have the mistaken impression that I don't like revolvers. Nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, I own more wheelguns than autopistols, and I often hunt with a round gun. I do, however, consider them inferior as fighting tools, compared to a modern high capacity semiauto. If your day on the two-way range comes, you'll have plenty of pressing problems to deal with. Why voluntarily add to those by choosing a less efficient sidearm?

Most modern double action revolvers have atrocious stocks on them, as they come from the factory. The stocks were designed for single-action bullseye shooting, and don't work well for fast double-action defensive shooting. The stocks also often interfere with rapid, positive ejection of spent cases, or with insertion of a speedloader. Most savvy revolver shooters wind up replacing the factory stocks with something more useful.

In the hey-day of the revolver and its most skillful users, an awful lot of champion shooters' revolvers sported Roper stocks. These were handmade by Walter Roper and two of his employees, from 1934 to 1952. Original Roper stocks are now collector's items, and just the stocks command prices in the \$500 to \$1,000 range, too rich for me.

Fortunately, an old line company, Herrett's Gun Stocks, still makes a modern copy of the Roper design, and still offers to fit the stocks precisely to the shooter's hand. This is accomplished by sending a tracing of your hand, three fingers together, index finger and thumb separated from the others. This allows their craftsmen to make a set of stocks that fit you perfectly.

I recently acquired a Smith & Wesson Model 68, a stainless steel .38 Special with 6" barrel and adjustable sights. This gun cried out for a set of Ropers, so I had Herrett's make me a pair. The stocks are quite thin from side to side, fitting my smallish hands perfectly. They really are works of art.

For more information, please, contact Gun Stocks by Herrett's Stocks, Inc. at www.herrettstock.com. ■

POP QUIZ

The .38WCF was a popular Old West cartridge of the 19th Century, both in lever-action rifles and in revolvers. However, what is old is often new again. The ballistics, bullet weight, and caliber of this 150-year-old design are all now mimicked by what popular modern day pistol round?

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| A) .38 Special | C) .357 Magnum |
| B) 9mm Luger | D) .40 S&W |

Be the first to post the right answer on the Rangemaster Facebook page, and YOU will be this month's

WINNER!