



Tactical Talk

Volume 14, Issue 7

July 2010

Deja vu DVC:

In archery we have three goals; to shoot accurately, to shoot powerfully, to shoot rapidly.

- De Re Strategica of Syrianus Magister-

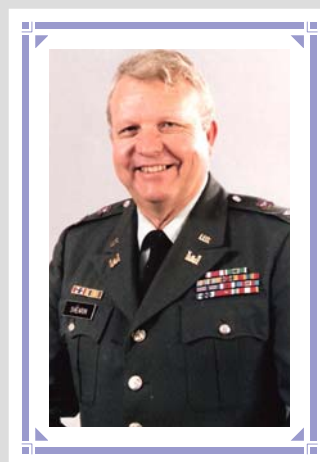
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Colonel James Mitchum Shearin, USA (ret)

March 1934- June 2010

With profound sadness, we announce the passing of Col. Jim Shearin, who passed away at 11:00 p.m., June 19, 2010, after a long illness.



Col. Shearin served his beloved country for a total of 40 years of combined active service and duty in National Guard components. He retired as a full Colonel, commanding a regiment of some 3,000 soldiers. His military career was long and colorful.

In 1996, Col. Shearin joined the staff of Rangemaster full time as an instructor. He took every class in Rangemaster's curriculum, and also attended training under John Farnam, Ken Hackathorn, Chuck Taylor, and other notables, as well as training at Gunsite under Jeff Cooper himself. Jim was certified as an instructor by Rangemaster, the Tennessee Department of Safety, and the NRA. The Colonel's specialty was bringing out excellence in students via one-on-one coaching, and he was also a mentor to many of our newer staff instructors. He worked as an armorer on 1911 and Glock handguns, and shared with us all the wealth of firearms knowledge accumulated over a shooting career spanning six decades.

An avid IDPA shooter and supporter, Jim worked as an RO in all of the IDPA National Championships over a ten year period. He was also involved in the administration of the annual Tactical Conferences.

The Colonel died peacefully in his sleep at Baptist Hospital, surrounded by his family and friends, who loved him dearly. He will be sorely missed.

Skill Atrophy

By Tom Givens

Adapted from an article originally by Scott Watson, an instructor with The Jedburgh Group, www.jedburgh-usa.com. Scott is a highly experienced combat veteran and trainer.



"A Navy study on the degradation of skills of their Aviation Anti-Submarine Operators showed that the skills and knowledge had "degraded significantly" when tested after 29 days. Interestingly, both the factual and computational portions of the test showed similar levels of atrophy while the classification portion of the test showed no loss.

The Army conducted a similar study on Nurses in an attempt to understand the retention of both Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS). Following certification in both skills, the nurses in the study (133 nurses assigned to Fort Sam Houston) were retested 3, 6, 9, or 12 months later. The findings show that while theoretical knowledge of both BLS and ACLS skills remained strong, performance skills suffered greatly. The basic skills were retained at a higher rate and tended to atrophy at a slower rate. 63% of nurses retained BLS skills after 3 months and 58% after 12 months. Only 30% of nurses passed ACLS after 3 months with just 14% after 12 months."

My old friend Claude Werner sent this info. Of course, it mirrors exactly what we see in firearms training. Many times, I travel somewhere to conduct a 2-3 day handgun course, and have to spend the first half of the first day going over skills the shooters are supposed to already have. Since they have not practiced since their last class, they have lost a great deal of the skill they acquired in the last class. Motor skills involving eye/hand coordination, like shooting, require maintenance (practice). Fortunately, some of the primary skills, such as presenting the pistol from the holster, can be maintained through dry practice at home.



Gun Control is NOT Crime Control

Anyone with half a brain figured out long ago that the "gun control" agenda is not about, guns—it's about control. Everywhere in the world that draconian gun laws have gone into effect, violent crime has gone up. Here are some examples, based on the most recent annual figures:

The United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales)- Several years ago handguns were banned completely in England, and rifles and shotguns must be licensed and stored under strict security. No private citizen has the right to carry any sort of firearm, or to use one to defend a business. There are 2,034 violent crimes per 100,000 population in England.

Canada- In Canada, handguns, and semi-auto rifles or shotguns are "restricted weapons" requiring a government license to own. There are VERY few handguns in private hands. There is NO such thing as a license to carry a handgun. In Canada, there are 935 violent crimes per 100,000 population.

The United States- Private firearms ownership is now at an all-time high. 48 out of 50 states now have a handgun carry permit system. Most states recognize carry permits from other states. Many states have from a half million to 2 million handgun carry permit holders. There are 466 violent crimes per 100,000 population in the US. That is one-half the rate in Canada and one-fourth the rate in England, where guns are essentially banned outright. Criminals prefer unarmed victims.



Legal Carry in Restaurants in Tennessee

On June 4, 2010, the Tennessee Legislature voted overwhelmingly to over-ride Gov. Bredesen's veto of the latest Restaurant Carry Bill. The over-ride passed with broad bi-partisan support, and a two-thirds majority in both the Senate and the House. The media has done a horrible job of misrepresenting this bill, so here are some facts:

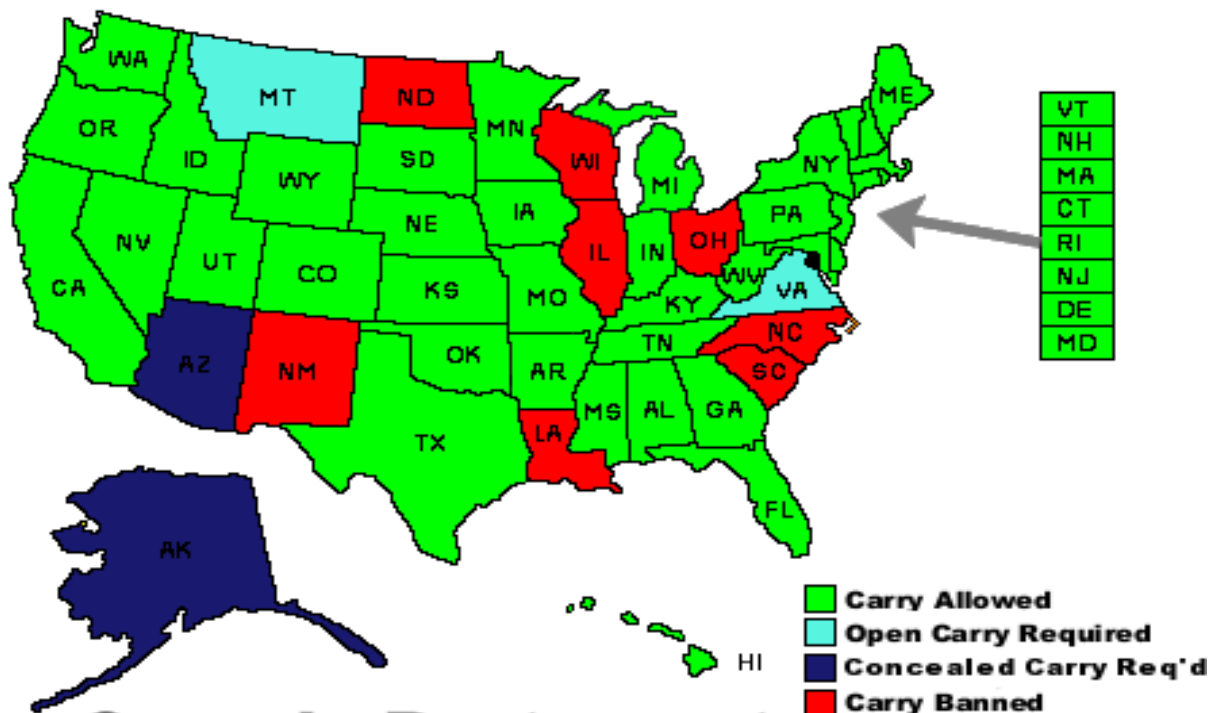
It is now legal for a Handgun Carry Permit holder to carry inside a restaurant that serves alcohol, so long as

- ◆ the permit holder does not drink any alcohol,
- ◆ and the restaurant owner/manager has not posted the property as a no-gun zone.

It is still illegal for anyone without a permit to carry there. If a permit holder drinks alcohol while carrying, he is subject to a year in jail, a fine of \$2500, and loss of the permit for three years. This is a much stiffer penalty than for drinking and driving.

Restaurant owners can prohibit firearms by placing a sign at each entrance. The international no-gun sign (gun with red circle and slash) or a text sign, or both, will suffice.

This is not a situation unique to Tennessee, and it will have no effect on tourism. In fact, 42 states allow permit holders to carry in restaurants that serve liquor. Only eight states in the whole country prohibit this. This bill just brings Tennessee in line with the rest of the country.



Carry in Restaurants That Serve Alcohol

Massad Ayoob

MAG 40, Armed Citizens' Rules of Engagement



Massad Ayoob is one of the best known writers and lecturers on self defense subjects in the United States, as well as one of the country's most respected expert witnesses. For 28 years he has offered this immersion level, 40 hour course in managing lethal threats and the legal ramifications of the use of force. This four-day, ten hour per day course includes both in-depth classroom training, and live fire training, with documented qualification firing on several law enforcement handgun courses.

The classroom training will include an emphasis on legal issues, tactical issues, and aftermath management. Topics will include interacting with suspects, witnesses, and responding officers...threat recognition and mindset... management of social and psychological aftermath after having had to use lethal force in defense of self or others...and preparing beforehand for legal repercussions and minimizing exposure to them. Situations in the home, at the place of business, or "on the street" will all be covered. Two full days are devoted to these critical issues in the classroom.

The live fire portion of the training will take place over two full days of training on the spacious ranges of the Memphis Police Department training academy. This is a 20 hour immersion level course in the use of the defensive handgun under extreme stress. Draw from concealment, two handed stances, shooting from cover, one-handed stances with either hand, speed reloading, and more are taught with an emphasis on fast, accurate shot placement. The course will culminate with a police-style qualification course--estimated ammo count- 500 rounds.

All of this training will take place at the Memphis Police Academy Firearms Training Unit, one of the most modern, well equipped, and up to date training academies in the South. We will be using their modern classrooms, and a spacious outdoor range with modern target systems. Advance registration is required.

DATES: August 28-31, 2010, Saturday through Tuesday, 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. each day.

TUITION: \$789.00 - A deposit of \$200 will hold a space, balance due no later than 13 August 2010. Deposits or tuition become non-refundable after Aug 13, 2010. If for some reason the class is cancelled, students receive a 100% deposit refund.

REGISTRATION: Call 901-370-5600 to register, or mail a check to:

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

All registration will be handled through Rangemaster. For further information, contact rangemaster.tom@rangemaster.com or mas@massadayoob.com .



Rangemaster
 2611 S. Mendenhall Rd.
 Memphis, TN 38115
 Phone – (901)370-5600
 Fax – (901)370-5699



“Proven Techniques, Tactics, & Thinking For the Real World”

Phone Order: Payment by credit card accepted over the phone during business hours.

Fax Order: Fax this form with credit card information at any time.

Mail Order: Payment by check, money, or credit card are accepted by mail. Please make checks payable to “Rangemaster” and mail to the address at the top of this page.

Quantity	Product	Price	Total
	Book: “Fighting Smarter” 3 rd Edition	\$27.95	
	DVD: “Concealed Carry for Self Defense”	\$34.95	
	DVD: “Defensive Shotgun”	\$29.95	
Subtotal			
Shipping (\$3.00 per DVD, \$4.00 per Book)			
Order Total			

Billing Information	Shipping Information (If Different)
Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City, State:	City, State:
Zip Code:	Zip Code
E-Mail:	

Credit Card Information	
Number:	Type: Visa MasterCard AmEx Discover
Expiration:	Signature:



The Compact, Concealed Handgun in Law Enforcement: Enforcement: A Fascinating History

**By Lt. Marlan J. Ingram, Law Enforcement Unit,
Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Memphis Branch**

The vast majority of uniformed law enforcement personnel in the U.S. carry a full size 'service' pistol, with the Glock Model 22 in .40 S&W caliber being the most common. Among plain clothes officers, smaller variants, such as the Glock 23 and Glock 27 are very popular. This offers plain clothes and undercover officers the ability to carry full power pistols, but in a more concealable package. While the advantages of this are obvious, the story of how this came to be is fascinating, and for the most part, untold.

The first practical, multi-shot 'service' handguns were the Colt Paterson, created in 1835, and the Colt Walker, created in 1847. These were initially called 'Holster' pistols by the factory, not because they were intended to be carried in holsters on the belt, but because they were intended to be carried in Pommel Holsters on a horse. When you consider that the .44 caliber Colt Walker weighed in at 4 lbs., 8 oz., and had a 9 inch barrel, then horse carry, with the nick name of 'Horse Pistols' becomes obvious. These huge revolvers were used with great success by the Texas Rangers, but it goes without saying that attempting to carry one concealed would be a challenge at best.

Colt attempted to address the size issue in 1848 by creating the Colt Dragoon, a slightly scaled down model. The .44 caliber Colt Dragoon sported a 7 ½ inch barrel and weighed in at 4 lbs., 2 oz., so it was no lightweight either. In 1849, Colt created a true 'Pocket' pistol, aptly named the 1849 Pocket Colt, which could be had with barrel lengths as short as three inches. The drawback to the 1849 Pocket Colt was that it was only .31 caliber, and while popular with the average civilian, it still wasn't considered to be a prime fighting handgun by lawmen and gunfighters because it lacked true stopping power. Colt finally split the difference in 1851 by creating the .36 caliber Navy Colt, which became one of the most popular handguns of the Victorian-era. The 1851 Navy Colt weighed in at 2 lbs., 10 oz., so it was considered to be a 'Belt' revolver by the factory (intended to be carried in a holster on the belt), but it sported a 7 ½ inch barrel, so concealment was still an issue.

One thing that all of these revolvers had in common was that they were percussion, also referred to as 'cap and ball', meaning that they had to be loaded either with loose powder and ball (into each chamber) or paper cartridges, with a percussion cap put on a nipple on the rear of each chamber to create a spark when struck with the hammer of the revolver. In 1860 Colt created its best revolver of this type, the .44 caliber Colt Army, which sported an 8 inch barrel, but weighed 2 lbs., 10 oz., just like the earlier Colt Navy. The Colt Army went on to become the number one revolver used during the American Civil War (1861-65), and it was this particular model which spurred many lawmen and other gunmen of the day to 'take matters into their own hands', and finally address the size vs. power issue that the factories of the day were unable to address.

The issue was simple: The .31 caliber 'Pocket' Colts were the perfect size for concealment, but the caliber was considered to be too small by experienced gunfighters of the day. The .44 caliber Colt Army was consid-

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ered to be a great fighting handgun, but its size was a hindrance to concealment. To solve this problem, many lawmen and gunfighters of the day would often take the 1860 Colt Army to local gunsmiths, and have the barrel chopped down to 2 ½ or 3 inches, effectively creating the first 'snub nosed' revolvers. The list of lawmen and agencies that used these cut down Colts is legion:



At top is the standard 1860 Colt Army .44. At bottom is the special 'snub nosed' variant mentioned in the article.

Lawman James B. Hume served as El Dorado County, California Sheriff, and City Marshal of Placerville, California, before taking the position as Chief of Detectives with Wells Fargo & Company. It was in this latter position that Hume pioneered the novel idea of 'gathering evidence' to track down criminals, as opposed to gathering posses to simply run such outlaws to ground. For example, the notorious Stage Coach Robber 'Black Bart' left behind poems after his robberies, signing them 'The P08'. James Hume found the same insignia on handkerchiefs in a local laundry, and thus tracked down and arrested Black Bart through his laundry marks! Lawman James B. Hume was a noted user of the Snub Nosed 1860 Colt Army .44.

Lawman Dallas Stoudenmire was an accomplished gunfighter, known for carrying two revolvers, and being equally accurate with either hand. A former Texas Ranger, he also served as the Town Marshal of Socorro, New Mexico, and the Town Marshal of El Paso, Texas. It was in this latter capacity that he engaged in one of his most famous gunfights on April 14, 1881. With a .44 caliber revolver smoking in each hand, he killed three men in five seconds. Three days later, on April 17, he was ambushed by former Deputy Marshal Bill Johnson, but so great was Stoudenmire's skill, that he easily survived the ambush, killing Johnson in the process. Marshal Stoudenmire was credited with cleaning up the town of El Paso, a fact currently acknowledged by the El Paso Police Department. One of Marshal Stoudenmire's handguns was a Snub Nosed 1860 Colt Army .44.

One of the most notorious users of the Snub Nosed Colt was Porter Rockwell, a former Deputy U.S. Marshal who also served as the personal bodyguard of Brigham Young. Porter Rockwell was a member of a secret fraternal organization founded by the Latter Day Saints in June of 1838, with specific duties of protecting the church. At that time, the Mormon's were under constant, violent siege from those opposed to their religious practices, so the protective organization known as 'Danites' was created. The Danites were so effective in protecting the church that they were dubbed by outsiders as 'Avenging Angels', and even today, many collectors refer to these special sawed off revolvers as 'Avenging Angel Colts'. The 1995 movie 'Avenging Angels', starring Tom Berenger, James Coburn, and Charlton Heston illustrated this colorful period in history. It is believed that the real Porter Rockwell had over 100 kills to his credit.

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Prior to the invention of armored cars, currency and valuables were transported via railway and stagecoach by express companies. The Overland Express Company was one such company, as was the Wells Fargo Express Company. Both of these agencies armed their guards with Snub Nosed Colts. You would think that with the popularity of these sawed off revolvers that the major firearms factories would be quick to jump on the bandwagon, but for the most part, the major gun manufacturers of the day continued to make small, sub caliber firearms (such as the 1849 Pocket Colt mentioned previously) for concealment purposes. This situation would finally change in the early to mid 20th century.

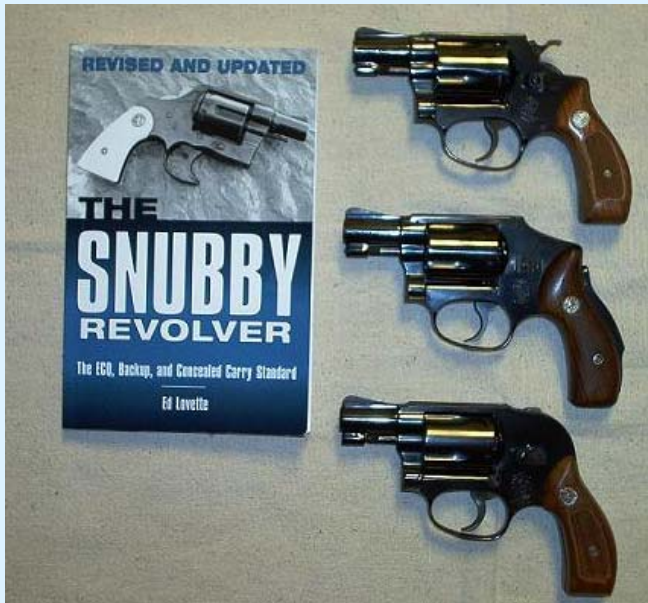
By 1900, both Colt and Smith & Wesson offered full size 'service' revolvers for police use, with barrel lengths of 4, 5, and 6 inches being common. In 1927, Colt finally departed from this format, creating the Colt Detective Special with a 2 inch barrel in .38 Special caliber. It was an immediate hit, and was used by such notables as Treasury Agent Eliot Ness, who was credited with taking down Al Capone, and FBI Agent Melvin Purvis. Melvin Purvis was known to be a crack shot, and is credited with leading the manhunts that killed public enemy's Baby Face Nelson, Pretty Boy Floyd, and John Dillinger.



At top is the standard S&W Military & Police revolver, circa 1903. Directly under it is it's direct descendent, the Model 10. At bottom is the Smith & Wesson Chief's Special. All of the revolvers are in .38 Special caliber.

During World War II, Smith & Wesson finally got in the game, by offering special 2 inch barreled versions of their Military & Police Revolver (later named the Model 10) for Commando Units. After the war, this Snub Nosed S&W became a standard item in the S&W catalog in 1946. In 1950, Smith & Wesson created their masterpiece, the small, five shot Chief's Special, later named the Model 36. Like the Colt Detective Special and the Model 10, it was in .38 Special caliber, and was so highly regarded that it became THE revolver to be issued to detectives and plain clothes operators.

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Ed Lovette, author of 'The Snubby Revolver', is a former Captain in the U.S. Army Special Forces, a former CIA Operative, and 10 year veteran in Law Enforcement. He considers the Snub Nosed revolvers, such as the S&W revolvers illustrated to the right, to be the best choice for both civilians, and plain clothes operatives.

One of the most accomplished users of the Smith & Wesson Model 10 was Jim Cirillo, a member of the New York Police Department from 1954 to 1976, and a member of their famed Stakeout Squad from 1968 to 1973. In that capacity, Cirillo was involved in a total of 17 gunfights, with 11 fatalities to his opponents. Cirillo was also a competition shooter, and after his retirement from the NYPD, an instructor at FLETC from 1976 to 1991.

In the mid 1980s, Glock led the charge in bringing about a wholesale switch from revolvers to semi-automatic pistols in the law enforcement community. As mentioned earlier, the Glock is the most prominent handgun used in law enforcement, and taking notes from those accomplished gunmen 'back in the day', Glock has also made available compact, and sub compact models of their popular handguns.



The top pistol in this photo is the Glock Model 22 in .40 S&W caliber, the most popular pistol in law enforcement. At bottom is the slightly smaller Glock 23 in the same caliber, popular with plain clothes officers. The Glock 27 (not shown) is even smaller.

In reviewing this history, it's obvious that the idea of a compact, concealed handgun in the law enforcement community was pioneered by lawmen back in the day who 'knew what they were about'. It's a colorful history, and as a law enforcement officer, firearms enthusiast and historian, I'm of the opinion that the trend will continue, long into the future.

2011 Annual Rangemaster/Polite Society Tactical Conference

Saturday-Sunday, April 30- May 1, 2011

at the United States Shooting Academy (USSA) Tulsa, Oklahoma

Registration fee is \$229.00. This includes all of the training segments, the tactical match, the side match, and the prize drawing.

The trainers present for 2010 will be returning, plus we will have some new trainers presenting topics. We will be expanding to take advantage of USSA's sprawling range complex, and there will be 21 instructors presenting various live-fire, hands on, and classroom training segments. This event will fill completely two to three months in advance, so sign up early to avoid disappointment.

You MAY NOT register for this event by phone. The only way to register is to print and complete a registration form and print and complete the USSA liability waiver, and send these to Rangemaster, along with payment. We have included the registration form and USSA Liability Waiver here for your convenience. Print, them, fill them out, and mail them to us asap.

Mail-in registration may be accompanied by a personal or company check, a money order, or credit/debit card information. FAX registrations can be accepted with credit/debit card info. The fax number is 901-370-5699.

Mail entries to: Rangemaster
2611 S. Mendenhall Rd
Memphis, TN, 38115.

Registered attendees will receive a detailed equipment list, list of trainers and their topics, and other information prior to the event date.

Rangemaster now has a home on Facebook. You can go to the front page of our website and click on the Facebook banner to join, or go to <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=234643425923&ref=nf> .



Shooter uses car for cover while engaging targets, Tactical Conference 2010.



Classroom presentations are an important part of the Tactical Conference.

Shooters work together to engage targets, Two Man Team Basics, Tactical Conference 2010.



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Upcoming Special Classes

Combative Pistol 1

here at Rangemaster, Memphis, July 10-11,
Saturday-Sunday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m. both days



Dynamic Marksmanship

2-day, West Shore Sportsmens Association, Harrisburg, PA, July 24-25

Defensive Shotgun 1

here at Rangemaster, July 26-27, Mon-Tue, 6 p.m.-10 p.m. both nights

Defensive Revolver

one day, Manchester, TN, July 31, Saturday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Dynamic Marksmanship, Two-Day Format

Sept. 17-18, 2010 Friday-Saturday, 9 a.m.-6p.m. each day, \$400
Cedar Ridge Shooting Academy, Cave City, KY (brand new state of the art facility)

Optional third day: Defensive Shotgun, Sunday, Sept. 19th, \$200
(Students may enroll in either, or both courses. If you enroll for all three days, the package price is \$500!)