



Tactical Talk

Volume 15, Issue 7

July 2011

“How a politician stands on the Second Amendment tells you how he or she views you as an individual... as a trustworthy and productive citizen, or as part of an unruly crowd that needs to be lorded over, controlled, supervised, and taken care of.”

-- Texas State Rep.

Suzanna Gratia-Hupp

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Gang Awareness

Gangs are a real problem in the US as a whole and especially in Memphis. According to the FBI, there are approximately 800,000 active hard-core gang members at large in the United States, plus 150,000 currently in prisons, plus about 50,000 outlaw bikers. That adds up to a million gang members nationwide. The FBI has identified over 40 gangs that have multi-state membership.

Locally, the District Attorney General's Gang Unit believes there are somewhere between 15,000 and 20,000 active gang members in Memphis. Memphis comprises only a bit over 300 square miles, so that is between 50 and 65 gang members per square mile. Don't be surprised when you run into them, they are present everywhere. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office Gang Unit has identified 660 different "sets", which are organized cliques of gang members that may range from a handful of members to scores operating together. The main gangs here consist of affiliates of the Gangster Disciples and the Vice Lords (originating from Chicago) and Blood or Crip affiliated gangs (originally from Los Angeles).

Traditionally, gang membership has been 80% male, but that is changing. More and more females are being drawn into gang life, and there are even some all female gangs, including BWA (Bitches with Attitude). Most of the drug trade and most of the violent street crime here can be traced to these organized criminal enterprises.

If at first you don't succeed, try again.

If you are unsuccessful, perhaps you're just incompetent.

Massad Ayoob, MAG-20 Course

July 30-31, 2011, Saturday-Sunday

Rangemaster, Memphis, TN

Armed Citizens' Rules of Engagement

This is a two-day, 20-hour immersion course in rules of engagement for armed law-abiding private citizens, emphasizing legal issues, tactical issues, and aftermath management. Topics will include interacting with suspects, witnesses, responding police officers...threat recognition and mind-set...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. Prerequisite: none.

This is a very intensive classroom course that runs from 8:00am until 6:00pm both days. The training will take place in the comfortable classrooms at Rangemaster, with modern audio/visual equipment. There are numerous hotels and restaurants literally within blocks of Rangemaster.

Optional Third Day

Monday, August 1, 2011

Handgun Skills, with Tom Givens

This is an intensive full day of live-fire range training on Rangemaster's comfortable, air conditioned indoor range. Students will fire between 350 and 400 rounds of ammunition in drills designed to enhance marksmanship ability, ingrain gunhandling skills that will hold up under duress, and reinforce sound tactical principles. Both daylight and low light firing will be conducted and the class runs from 8:00 am until 6:00 pm. This class is not suitable for beginners.

COST

Tuition for MAG-20 is \$400. The optional third day for live fire training is \$200. A deposit of \$200 will hold your space for either or both segments, with the balance due no later than 15 days prior to class date. Ammunition will be available at low cost on site.

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

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



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”	\$19.95	
	DVD: “Defensive Shotgun”	\$19.95	
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:

A flock of geese and personal safety

By Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper

My neighbor's pond is home to a flock of Canadian Geese. My feathered neighbors (the geese, not the humans) graze in my back yard...front yard...pretty much anywhere they choose. While I'm not crazy about the mess they make, they are beautiful creatures and interesting to observe. I've watched them for so many years; I can identify some of the individual geese by slight variations in their markings. It occurred to me recently that we can learn some things from the geese as it relates to our safety:



They are ever observant. While the flock is heads-down and grazing, one is always looking around; observing the landscape for danger. Before that particular goose nibbles at some grass, it takes a look around. Then he (I'm assuming it's a he) briefly dips his head to snatch up some grass. While the others stay heads-down, this one grabs a quick bite and just as quickly returns to his "watchman" duties. The geese know; the single most important tactical principle is alertness.

They move from danger. My dog is completely uninterested in the geese; actually I think she is afraid of them. She has never once chased them or barked at them. Yet, when she goes to the yard, the geese move away. There will be a gap of 20 or 30 yards between the dog and the geese, but the geese start immediately moving anyway because they perceive danger. The question is; if you perceive possible danger, what do you do? Keep forging ahead, or take another direction?

There has been a spate of internet videos recently featuring fights in restaurants. What amazes me is that the other patrons of these restaurants don't immediately leave when trouble breaks out; they freeze in place and watch events unfold. People! Learn from the geese! There is danger; move away!

They communicate. Once danger is spotted, the geese start communicating. If you really listen, you can hear the difference in a precautionary honk and the "I'm not kidding; let's go" danger signal honk. So, do you have a communication plan with your spouse or significant other? Do your kids know what you want them to do if danger is spotted? Does the entire family know what and how to communicate if someone is breaking into your home? A critical aspect of any plan is communication. Often we focus on the verbal commands we would give to an assailant – and they are important - without thinking about needed communication to those around us.

I've heard it said so many times, "I've got a gun, so I'm safe." Having a gun, in and of itself, does not make you safe anymore than the geese having wings to fly away from danger make them safe. The gun – and taking wing – is the tool of last resort. Before the geese use *their* tool of last resort, they observe, move from danger, and communicate. It works for the geese; it will work for us too!

A Graphic Reminder

Over the Memorial Day weekend we were teaching handgun skills in a class near Knoxville, TN, when a female student had a malfunction that drives home a couple of important lessons. She was shooting an FNH .45 semi-automatic pistol and doing quite well with it. During a drill, the hammer fell but no Boom. She immediately did a tap/rack, as trained, to no avail. After a couple more tap/rack attempts, I intervened. A fired case was stuck in the chamber. After clearing the gun and locking the slide open, I tried to pry out the offending case with a key, which usually works. In this case, all I got was a bent key! I field stripped the gun, taking the barrel out. I was then able to use a Leatherman tool to muscle out the stuck case.

It turns out she was shooting S&B factory ball ammunition, and was loading magazines directly from the factory boxes. A single round of .40 S&W factory ammo in the box of .45's was loaded into the magazine without being noticed by the student. When that round fired, the case expanded and gripped the walls of the .45's chamber so tightly that it took the above described procedure to get it out. This points out two big lessons:

1. Don't assume that everything in a box of factory ammo is as it should be. Inspect ammo before use and while loading magazines. Watch out for mixing calibers during a practice or training session. In this case, no real damage was done, but the gun was put out of action for five minutes.
2. If this had happened in a fight, a back-up gun (BUG) would have been the only viable solution. You won't have time to disassemble your gun and fix a problem like this in a fight.

People constantly tell me women cannot actually wear a self defense handgun. Here Lynn has her "girl clothes" on, with a full size Smith & Wesson M&P in a belly band, loaded with 18 rounds of CorBon DPX ammo. She has actually been standing there thus armed while people tried to explain to her that women can't wear a pistol. Being able to take care of one's self requires self discipline, which includes selecting clothing one can be adequately armed in.





Another Rangemaster Instructor Hits the 10 Year Mark

In the June issue we spotlighted Rangemaster Instructor Craig Harper, who has now been an instructor here for 10 years. This month we would like to recognize Jeff Myers, who also hit the 10 year service mark in 2011.

Jeff served in the US Marine Corps and is now a successful insurance agent. He has trained extensively, both at Rangemaster and at other schools. At Rangemaster, Jeff has taken virtually every class we offer, and earned a Handgun Master rating in 2001. He has also trained at Thunder Ranch, and

trained with Pat Rogers, EAG; Jeff Gonzales, Trident Concepts; John Farnam, DTI; Action Target Shoot-House Instructor 1 and 2; Tiger McKee, Shootrite Academy; and several other schools. Jeff teaches Level 2 handgun courses here and assists with our off-site courses all over the southern U.S.

Combative Pistol 1 at Rangemaster, Memphis

CP1 is our signature road course that we teach all over the country. In 2011 we will be conducting this class in Baton Rouge, LA; Kansas City, KS; Florence, SC; Austin, TX; Cave City, KY; Culpeper, VA; Longview, TX; and Americus, Georgia, to name a few. You have a rare opportunity to take this class locally on July 9-10, 2011, Saturday-Sunday, 9am-6pm both days. Our range is air conditioned, so the July weather is not an issue.



This is an immersion level course, with two full days of classroom and range training. You will need about 800-900 rounds of ammunition, which you can bring or buy here. Call 901-370-5600 to register.

Tactical Conference After-Action Report

Rangemaster 2011 Tactical Conference

May 14-15, 2011

United States Shooting Academy, Tulsa, OK

There were approximately 100 attendees, from all over the United States.

Classroom or live-fire range training blocks presented by:

Classroom-

- ◆ Massad Ayoob, Massad Ayoob Group, "Managing Post-Shooting Stress and Trauma"
- ◆ John Hearne, Rangemaster, "The FBI Miami Shoot-Out; Lessons that still resonate 25 years later"
- ◆ Dr. Martin Topper, "Finding the Magic Bullet, An Overview of Terminal Ballistics"
- ◆ Steve Moses, Bluff Dale Academy, "VIP Protection Principles for Dummies"
- ◆ Claude Werner, Firearms Safety Training, LLC, "The Myth of the Lone Gunman, Operating with family, friends, and others"
- ◆ Karl Rehn, KR Training, "Managing Force on Force Training for Instructors"
- ◆ William Aprill, Rangemaster, "Fatal Choices, Some of what we know about VCA's and victim selection"

On the range-

- ◆ Southnarc, Shivworks, "Managing Unknown Contacts"
- ◆ Mike Brown, USSA, "Weapon Access in a Clinch"
- ◆ Caleb Causey, Lone Star Medical, "Tactical Medicine for the Prepared Citizen"
- ◆ Brian Hill, USSA, "One Handed Survival Shooting Skills"
- ◆ Will Andrews, Oklahoma Shooting Skills, "Shotgun Skills"
- ◆ Rob Pincus, I.C.E. Training, "Unorthodox Shooting Positions"
- ◆ Wayne Dobbs, "Critical Fundamentals of the Combative Pistol"
- ◆ Claude Werner, Firearms Safety Training, LLC, "Snubby Skills"
- ◆ Jim Higginbotham, Riposte, Inc, "Fire for Effect"



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Plus, there was a tactically oriented match consisting of two separate phases. In the Standards, shooters engaged cardboard targets on Limited Vickers Count, from 2-22 yards from a variety of positions. In the Scenarios, we recreated four shooting engagements involved in various moments of the infamous FBI Miami Shoot-Out of 1986. Targets were DVD Target's "Hard Head Ted" reactive mannequin targets, which only fall if struck hard in the upper center chest. Shooters used a truck and range barricades for cover while engaging these knock down humanoid targets. Scores from the Standards and the Scenarios were combined to rank the shooter's performances. About 80 of the attendees participated in the match, while others used that time to attend more training.

There was also an exercise in the live-fire shoot-house. Participants went through one at a time accompanied by a Range Officer. Very realistic humanoid targets had to be found, identified, and spoken to, with the RO providing the verbal responses for the targets. This was a great opportunity to practice movement skills and the skills involved in sorting out a dynamic situation.

The standings for the Tactical Match were as follows:

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Champion	Wayne Dobbs	77.31
1st Place	John Hearne	80.26
2nd Place	Karl Rehn	80.60
3rd Place	Tim Meyers	81.17
4th Place	Jon Hodoway	84.93
5th Place	Ryan Adams	86.28
6th Place	Mike Brown	86.72
7th Place	Alex Fuller	87.40
8th Place	Massad Ayoob	87.81
9th Place	Matt Fields	88.83
10th Place	William	
Aprill	89.15	
James Darnell	91.40	
Chris Zeeb	93.76	
Michael Delaney	95.53	
Scott Sanford	98.77	
Trevor Tindle	100.28	
Steve Moses	100.46	
Greg Moats	100.56	
Christopher Comer	101.01	
Ron Winsett	101.16	
Kelley Boatwright	103.90	
Jeff Myers	104.79	
Steven Grundy	105.16	
Rick Staples	106.55	
Ronald Attanasio	106.63	
Chris Hopkins	108.93	
Chris Cunnyngnam	111.69	
Gabriel Schuetzner	112.12	
Bryce Ratchford	112.26	
Dave Garren	113.86	
Kyle Farnham	114.17	
Will Phillips	115.44	
Robert Hurst	125.28	
Gail Pepin	126.33	
Lance Brown	126.61	



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Lynn Givens 128.99
Mark Wolf 129.87
Spencer Keepers 130.56
Mike Birdsong 131.48
Justin Jacobsen 131.54
Greg Nurse 131.62
Anita Hopkins 134.89
Chuck Haggard 135.42
Dave Chandler 137.48
Jeff Muse 139.25
Leslie Buck 141.25
Vincent Shuck 142.12
Randall Holmes 144.36
Tim Marler 145.04
Paul Winsett 145.49
John Parker 151.01
Goetz Stobbe 152.50
David Jiles 153.02
John Thisler 155.85
Dan Kohr 155.93
Paul England 158.44
Othello Rowland 160.20
Patrick Martin 164.11
Doug Denton 166.60
Dee Vick 167.98
Brett Sanford 169.37
Marty Hayes 178.17
Darren Powell 178.39
Sam Spoor 179.47
Shawn Hodges 202.47
William Rae 205.78
Claude Werner 208.78
Tonya Powell 271.28
Rob Pincus 329.28
Dr. Martin Topper 342.00
Jules Klapper 344.32
Kyle McKay dnf



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Lane Stephenson dnf

Isaac Clark dnf

Clifford Leffingwell III dnf

Hershel Phillips dnf

Stacy Hayes dnf

Guy Gardner dnf

Clifford Leffingwell Jr dnf

Jon Carnes dnf

Dnf= did not finish

Watch for a big announcement on the 2012 conference soon!



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www.rangemaster.com

Annual Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development & Certification Course



On August 5-7, 2011 (Friday through Sunday) Rangemaster will conduct our annual instructor course here. This course is only offered once per year here in Memphis, and it is the flagship course of our training operations. The class consists of three full days (9am-6pm) in our modern classroom and on our indoor range. Since our range is air conditioned, the August Memphis heat doesn't matter. Space is strictly limited in this course, and when it fills you just have to wait 'til next year.

This is a very intensive course on HOW to teach, and on the WHY behind WHAT we teach. Students will fire approximately 900 rounds over three days of training. Most of the shooting is with your own gun, but we also supply a large collection of handguns of various types for you to fire for familiarization. There is a written examination at the end of the course, and a stringent handgun qualification test. Students also receive a 170+ page manual for this course, which serves as an excellent reference source after the class. Successful graduates can become Tennessee State Certified Handgun Instructors through the Department of Safety. Call 901-370-5600 to register.