



Tactical Talk

Volume 7, Issue 5

JUNE 2003



**There are always
death and taxes;
however death
doesn't get worse
every year.**

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Combative Pistol Course

On August 16-17, 2003, Rangemaster will conduct a two-day Combative Pistol Course at our home range in Memphis. This is the class we conduct on the road several times each year, all over the U.S. This is an intensive course, with two full days of range training.

Topics covered in this course include: Rapid presentation from concealed carry; Effective gunhandling techniques, designed to work under stress; Rapid reloading techniques; Movement skills, including engaging targets on the move; Disability drills; Weapon retention & disarming techniques; Low light firing, with and without a flashlight.



Shooters will fire between 600 and 800 rounds of ammunition, and class size is limited so we can provide extensive individual coaching. The primary instructor will be Tom Givens, assisted by several of our staff instructors. Cost is \$299.00. Sign up early to avoid disappointment, as this class will fill quickly.

For out of town students, we have arrangements with a Holiday Inn just two blocks from the range, with a special low rate for our students. This class is rarely offered in Memphis.



Annual Firearms Instructor Development Course

On July 25-27, 2004, Rangemaster will conduct our annual Firearms Instructor Development Course. This three day course is designed to prepare an individual to teach others the basics of defensive handgun shooting. This course is intended for shooters who have some prior training and know the basics of marksmanship and gunhandling. The emphasis is on teaching others how to shoot, either as an instructor or as a coach.

There is both classroom instruction and a good deal of range training. Students will fire a wide variety of handguns, learning how to correctly manipulate the various types of handguns. All weapons and ammunition are furnished, along with a huge reference manual. Cost of this course is \$399.00.

This course satisfies the requirements of the Department of Safety for a State Certified Handgun Instructor license. Even if you don't plan to teach, this course will help you as a shooter and the State Certified Handgun Instructor status gives you court recognized evidence of competence with your defensive sidearm.

OC/BATON COURSE

Anyone who carries a gun should also have access to some intermediate level of force something in between speaking sternly to someone and shooting him. Many situations require a defensive response short of deadly force. In addition, there will be specific times/places you may not be able to carry a gun. OC (pepper spray) and a concealable expandable baton are two tools which fill this niche neatly. Neither device is likely to serve you well, however, unless you have been trained in their use and understand the dynamics of choosing and deploying them appropriately.

On Thursday evening, July 10th, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m., we will offer a Baton/OC Class in our classroom, taught by James Yeager. In addition to his many other accomplishments, James is a Fox Labs certified OC instructor and a state certified baton instructor. This is a four hour academic class, all in the classroom. You will not be sprayed or struck in this course. Cost is only \$79.00. Graduates receive a state certificate and ID card which entitles them to legally carry an expandable baton in Tennessee.

CONTROLLING FEAR AND MAKING SOUND DECISIONS UNDER STRESS

When a responsible person first begins to go armed, he is typically nagged by self doubt about his ability to perform if a real life threatening crisis occurs.

This is a normal reaction, and to a degree it is healthy. We do, however, need to address this issue and resolve it, before a conflict, so that we won't be distracted when we should be concentrating on winning the fight. Remember, if an unavoidable fight is thrust upon us, we **MUST WIN!** The alternative can be death, or crippling injury.

The first issue to face is that of FEAR. Fear is a normal reaction to physical violence for most people. In addition, since most of us no longer have military experience and live in "civilized" surroundings, we may not have ever actually engaged in a true fight before our moment of truth in a criminal attack. This fear of the unknown is, for many, worse than the fear of being hurt or killed.

First, let me say this. Unless you are an exceptional person, a nutcase, or a liar, and you have actually been involved in armed conflict, you have tasted fear. I'm not ashamed to say I have been scared several times, and I fully expect to be scared again before my life is over. What you must learn to do is **control** your fear, and do what you must to win.

Fear can be controlled and overcome, even in life threatening circumstances. This is obviously true, and it is proven every day by hundreds of ordinary people all over the country. Here are some steps you can take to make this process easier:

1. Admit to yourself you are afraid, then move on. Concentrate your mental energies on the task at hand, not on your fear of death, injury, or loss of ego.
2. Avoid dwelling on the chance of failure. Concentrate on finding a way to win.
3. Take control of yourself. Autogenic breathing is the very best and most efficient way to do this.
4. Focus on getting the job done.
5. Have a Plan B. Always, always, always, expect Plan A to fail. Expect your gun to malfunction. Expect the suspect to stay up after being hit solidly. Expect to be injured. If any of these things occur, have a pre-planned option to continue (Plan B).
6. Turn anger into a motivator. Who does this clown think he is?!? What makes him think he has the right to (rob/rape/kill/ pick on) me?!?
7. Accept an element of fate in every situation. You can get hurt by accident after doing everything right. Control everything you CAN control (selection of equipment, getting adequate training and practice, being alert, thinking tactically) so there are fewer things you CAN NOT control.

Courage under fire is not a matter of being without fear. It is a matter of being able to control fear and accomplish your mission, which is to stay alive. Only fools are fearless.

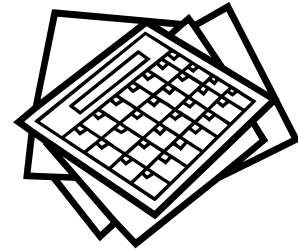
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The opening page of our website, rangemaster.com, now features a photo gallery. Just click on the "Photo Gallery" and you'll find fourteen photos from various Rangemaster activities, with detailed captions.

U p c o m i n g C l a s s e s



Level III Handgun, Rangemaster (Memphis) June 28-29, Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

OC/Baton Course, Rangemaster (Memphis) July 10, Thurs., 6 p.m. -10 p.m.

Level IV Handgun, Rangemaster (Memphis) July 19-20, Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Firearms Instructor Course, Rangemaster (Memphis) July 25-27, Fri.-Sun.

Combative Pistol Course, Rangemaster (Memphis) Aug. 16-17, Sat.-Sun., 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Surgical Speed Shooting, Andy Stanford, OPS (Memphis) Sept. 13-14, Sat.-Sun.

Combative Pistol Course, Rangemaster (Austin, TX) Oct. 11-12, Sat.-Sun.

Combative Pistol Course, Rangemaster (Clarksville, TN) Oct. 18-19, Sat.-Sun.

Combative Pistol Concepts II, Gabe Suarez (Memphis) Oct. 25-26, Sat.-Sun.