



Tactical Talk

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Registration for the 2004 Tactical Conference in February is now closed. The roster is full, and this promises to be one of our best events yet. If you are attending from out of town the host hotel is the Holiday Inn, 2490 Mt. Moriah, 1-800-477-5519. Be sure to ask for the special Rangemaster rate of only \$59.00 per night. The awards ceremony will also be held at this hotel after the conference and match. Make your reservations soon.

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Tom Givens Receives Award from Constitutional Organization

The Defenders of Freedom is an organization that promotes the education of the public and elected officials about our United States Constitution and the federal republic it ordains and governs. In December they held an awards banquet at Woodland Hills, attended by a number of local politicians and public figures. Our own Tom Givens was presented with the 2003 Patriot Award for his work on public education about gun rights and responsibilities through our training and news efforts here at Rangemaster. Congratulations, Tom!



DEFENSIVE SHOTGUN COURSE

The shotgun is the most effective and the most intimidating weapon the typical citizen can possess, but like any other weapon it is only as effective as the person wielding it. On January 12-13 (Mon./Tues.), 2004, we will conduct a Defensive Shotgun Course at Rangemaster. Tuition is only \$199.00, and ALL required ammunition is included in the cost.



Lessons from Real Life

Last month, Temesha Greene, 26, of Hampton Roads, Virginia, became concerned about the rising crime rate in her neighborhood, so she bought a .40 caliber handgun. Fortunately, she bought it from a business similar to Rangemaster, and they actually taught her how to handle and fire the handgun. That same night, as she and her children exited their car in their own driveway, a stranger pulled up and got out of a van, approaching them on foot. As he came near, he suddenly drew a pistol. Ms. Greene took cover behind a tree, pushed her children down to safety, produced her gun, and exchanged fire with her attacker, hitting him in the chest.

Lessons: First, you can't make an appointment for an emergency! Ms. Greene had no way of knowing she would need a gun that night-- fortunately she had one. Second, neither a cool head nor a handgun will do you much good by themselves. A cool head AND a handgun will often save the day. Without that gun and her presence of mind, either Ms. Greene, her children, or both would likely be dead. Instead, they are unharmed. Good show!

Add Another State for Tennessee Permits

The State of Delaware recently announced that they will now honor a Tennessee Handgun Carry Permit. The current list of states that recognize a Tennessee permit includes:



AR, FL, GA, ID, OK, CO, IN, KY, LA, MI, AL, AR, MS, MT, SC, TX, NC, NH, UT, VT, VA, AK, SD, WY, DE.

Missouri is on hold, pending resolution of the court challenge to their new statute. Ohio recently passed a concealed carry bill, but the governor has said he will veto it, although he has not yet. We will update you as news comes in.

Picture of the Month



T h i n k i n g o f t h e u n t h i n k a b l e

College student Dru Sjodin disappeared on November 22, 2003, from a mall in North Dakota. Although her abductor has been arrested, her body had still not been found as of this writing, in late December. Unfortunately, she will probably never be found, unless her murderer, a previously convicted sexual predator, makes a deal with prosecutors and reveals where he dumped her. Ms. Sjodin was abducted at knife point in a mall parking lot, as she chatted on a cell phone on her way to her car. Our friends and fellow trainers, Doc Gunn and John Farnam, submitted the following advice, and we use it here with their permission.

- (1) Inattentiveness
- (2) Unpreparedness
- (3) Defenselessness

Inattentiveness- If you are routinely unaware, you can take steps to make yourself even more so by talking on a cell phone as you walk in dark parking lots. How common, and how foolish!

Unpreparedness- Perceiving, in time, a set of circumstances that are suspicious is always the first step. In our defensive classes, one of the first skills we teach is that of observation and awareness of one's surroundings. Failing to have a plan, though, makes it all for naught! In the absence of a plan of action, most people, when confronted with criminal violence, panic and lapse into a state of mental paralysis. While they dither, the predator makes his move.

Defenselessness- When a physical fight is unavoidable, you need to be able to fight effectively. The unwillingness or inability to fight effectively is a virtual death sentence when criminal violence comes your way. If you allow yourself to be tied up, taken by force to a remote location, etc., your chances of survival are near zero. You need to be prepared, equipped, and willing to 'make your move' while making your move still has some likelihood of success.

All of us, even those of us who don't routinely carry concealed guns, can have OC spray with them most of the time. All of us, in most places, can carry a serious blade. ***Not having such easily carried defensive instrumentalities on your person all the time is silly.***

Most people's ONLY 'defense' against criminal attack is the perpetual hope they will not be selected as prey by a predator. De-selection strategies are surely an important part of any plan, but effective fighting is part of every legitimate plan, too, and most of us do not think about such things nearly enough. Like discussions of smoking, drugs, and AIDS, such topics are uncomfortable. But 'thinking about the unthinkable' is a lot less uncomfortable than what Dru went through in the last hours of her short life.



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Shoot-Off
Birmingham, AL

Combative Pistol Course *at Rangemaster*

On Saturday-Sunday, January 17-18, 2004, we will conduct a two-day Combative Pistol Course at Rangemaster. This is a very intensive weekend course, running from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. both days. This is our signature course we teach all over the US, with 2004 dates in Texas, Pennsylvania, Georgia, Alabama, and Louisiana. Students fire between 800 and 1,000 rounds of ammunition in both daylight and dim light conditions, plus there is hands-on training in weapon retention/disarming techniques, one handed emergency drills, and much more. There are still a few openings in this class, which won't be back in Memphis until late Fall.

Also, for our Texas students, we just announced a Combative Pistol Course on March 6-7, 2004 at the Tac Pro Shooting Center in Mingus, Texas. That's between Dallas and Abilene, at a modern outdoor range complex.