



# Tactical Talk

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*It was recently discovered that research causes cancer in rats.*



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## PERMIT NEWS

Missouri has now begun processing applications for their new handgun carry permits. Missouri recognizes all out of state permits now, so a Tennessee permit is now valid in Missouri. Ohio will begin processing applications for their new permit system in April, giving Ohioans the right to self defense for the first time. Ohio, will not, however, recognize out of state permits right now.

This leaves only four states in the entire country without a handgun carry permit system. Those four states are Nebraska, Kansas, Wisconsin, and Illinois. In those four states there is no legal civilian carry of handguns. The legislatures of both Kansas and Wisconsin have bills pending to set up permit systems in their states, but they have not passed yet at this writing.

In Tennessee, the Department of Safety has sent letters to several hundred permit holders, giving them 60 days to take a certified class or face revocation of their permits. This action stemmed from an investigation of a local school which was selling training certificates without requiring applicants to take the class. That school is no longer licensed to conduct permit training and the owner faces legal action.





# Upcoming Courses

## Steve Moses, Defensive Knife Class

Steve Moses will be here from Dallas, Texas, on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, to teach a one day class centered on effective self defense with the folding pocketknife. Steve has made an extensive study of this art, and he has trained for several years in the martial arts and in oriental knife fighting forms. Steve is also an accomplished firearms instructor. He combines his insights from these different fields into a very coherent and useful body of simple, but effective techniques for defense with a folding knife. Tuition is only \$150.00, and there are still a few slots left.

## Dynamic Marksmanship Course in Michigan

On May 15-16, Tom Givens and Jim Higginbotham will teach a two day Dynamic Marksmanship Course in southern Michigan, at the Watervliet Rod & Gun Club. This is an excellent private facility, with nice ranges and a comfortable clubhouse. Students rotate back and forth between Jim and Tom all weekend, resulting in a very intensive weekend of training, with no "butt time". The area is a tourist resort attraction, with boating, fishing, and other outdoor activities, and the weather is gorgeous in May. Tuition is only \$299.00, and there are a few slots still available.

## Low Light Gunfighting

Wes Doss is an Arizona police officer and an instructor with Suarez International. Wes will be at Rangemaster on August 14-15 to teach SI's Low Light Gunfighting course. This entire course is conducted in low light, both with and without a flashlight. In addition to the mechanics of the various flashlight techniques, you will learn how to search effectively, scan safely, and actually operate in a dark environment. Pistol engagements quite often occur in less than optimal lighting conditions, and the information in this course could be very useful. Contact Rangemaster for details or to register for this exciting class.

# Back-Up Guns



The Back-up Gun (BUG) is a topic of great interest among serious practitioners of the defensive arts. Most of the serious gunmen I know routinely carry more than one gun, with good reason. As my friend Clint Smith puts it, "If you recognize the need to carry a gun, you probably need to carry two. Two is one, and one is none." If you only have one gun, and it breaks or becomes separated from you, you have no gun.

There are two schools of thought on the BUG. One group carries a second gun on the belt, on the support side of the body. In the event of a mechanical malfunction in the primary gun, or an empty primary gun, they simply draw the BUG instead of reloading or fixing the malfunction. For them, accessing the second gun may be faster than reloading or performing a malfunction clearance drill. Often, the BUG and the primary sidearm are of the same type and caliber, requiring only one kind of ammunition to be carried.



The second group (to which I belong) carries the BUG more deeply concealed. In the event of an empty primary gun, or a malfunction, I'll just fix it and drive on. The BUG is there solely in case of a mechanical parts breakage on my primary gun. No matter how high the quality of your primary gun, and no matter how well you maintain it, a part could break during a fight, rendering the gun useless. In that event, I'll simply drop the dead gun and access my BUG.

The BUG needs to meet the same criteria one uses to choose a primary sidearm. Your second gun must still be reliable, effective, and user friendly. It still needs to be powerful enough to get the job done. If you've had to go to a second gun, odds are the situation is pretty hairy.

For decades, many of us, including me, carried a 5-shot J-frame Smith & Wesson revolver as our BUG, either in a support side pocket holster or in an ankle holster. With good ammo, like the 158 grain lead hollow points that used to be called the "FBI load", the snubby can be pretty effective. My first BUG was an S&W Model 38, which I replaced with the stainless air-weight Model 642 as soon as they became available. In recent months, I retired my faithful snubby and replaced it with a Kahr PM9 9mm auto. This remarkable little auto is less than one inch thick, and only weighs 14 ounces, but it holds 7 rounds of full power 9mm ammo. Mine is loaded with 124 grain Plus P Gold Dots. Even from the PM9's three inch barrel, these rounds are more effective than the ammo we had thirty years ago for a full size 4 inch barrel .38 service revolver, and the little auto is much easier to shoot well than any snub-nosed revolver. My PM9 slips easily into a support side pants pocket, or rides comfortably in an ankle holster on my support side leg. Either way, I have a bit of insurance handy should my primary gun suddenly go dead in the middle of a fight. Murphy always follows me around, so I have to try to stay one step ahead of him.

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***John Farnam and Doc Gunn conducted a one day Tactical Treatment of Gunshot Wounds course at Rangemaster in March.***

## **John Farnam Classes**

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, John Farnam and Doc Gunn conducted a one day Tactical Treatment of Gunshot Wounds course here at Rangemaster. Eighteen students learned about human anatomy, how to place shots for maximum effect if shooting is required, and how to treat gunshot wounds while waiting for medical help. The hands-on immediate care techniques taught could easily mean the difference between life and death for an associate or family member injured during a defensive shooting.

John will be back at Rangemaster on April 3-4, conducting an Advanced Handgun Course. There are still a few slots left in this challenging and fun class.