



Tactical Talk

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“Missiles of ligneus or petrous consistency have the potential for fracturing my ossiferous structures, but appellations will eternally remain innocuous.”

Inside this issue:

<i>Carry Your Gun</i>	2
<i>The Non-Standard Response</i>	3
<i>2005 Tactical Conference</i>	3
<i>Congratulations, Lt. Booker!</i>	3
<i>Combative Pistol II Picture</i>	4



MACHINEGUN SHOOT

The annual Ronald McDonald House Rock 103 Radiothon Charity Machinegun Shoot will be held on Saturday this time, on February 5, from 1:00 to 6:00 pm. We will have a variety of exotic, rare, fun guns to shoot, including submachineguns, an elephant gun, police weapons, and more. Proceeds benefit the wonderful work of the Ronald McDonald House, one of the most worthy charities I can think of. The House provides a no-cost home for the parents of kids with life threatening illnesses, undergoing treatment at St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. A child with cancer or a related illness is a parent's worst nightmare, and the support of the staff and residents at the House helps them get through this horribly traumatic event. Please come help us with this important event.

Warrior Talk Symposium

A reminder, the range will be shut down on Saturday-Sunday, January 8-9, for the Warrior Talk Symposium. The WTS is a gathering of members of the Warrior Talk Forum internet discussion group, from all over the US and England. There will be classes, including live fire, Simunitions, hand to hand, and classroom instruction for the attendees.

CARRY YOUR GUN

I have been teaching firearms use for 29 years now, the last eight years full time. I have trained around 1,000 military personnel, a few hundred police officers, and thousands of private citizens. In 2005, Rangemaster will graduate the 20,000th basic course student, plus I have taught another 1,000 students in road classes all over the United States.

A lot of my military and police students have been involved in shootings over the years, as that is in the nature of their jobs. When considering only the private citizen students, however, I know of almost forty who have been involved in shoot-outs with criminals. The students have won in every single case I am aware of. I may not know about every instance when a student defends himself, but I'm sure I know about most of them. Usually, one of the first things a student does after a confrontation is report back to the school that trained him.



To the best of my knowledge, I have had two private citizen students who were killed by armed criminals after their training, in separate incidents. Both had one thing in common- they were not armed when they were killed. For whatever reason, both decided NOT to carry a gun on the fateful day, and both paid with their lives. I don't care how highly trained you are, a one-sided gunfight is a good way to lose if the other side is the one that's armed. One thing you will NEVER get to decide is which days you will need your gun. Someone else makes that decision, and you will only be informed at the last minute. That's OK, as long as you have your gear.

The Non-Standard Response

“Bang, Bang.....Bang, Bang.....Bang, Bang.....” You’ll hear this constantly at IDPA matches, IPSC/USPSA matches, and many prestigious firearms training schools. For many years, these institutions have been teaching two shots per target engagement as the “standard response”.

The trouble is, pistols are notoriously underpowered for quickly rendering an assailant out of the fight, especially if only one or two hits are achieved. Very few people can surgically place ALL of their rounds under the stress of a real gunfight, so at least one of those two rounds is likely to be a peripheral hit, at best. It may take several well-placed shots to put down an angry, coked up, or psychotic aggressor.

The answer? The “non-standard response”, as currently taught by many of the more progressive trainers on the circuit. Any target that needs to be shot should probably receive a burst of 3-5 shots, delivered as rapidly as good hits can be achieved. In trained hands, at typical engagement distances, this only takes a second to a second and a half, and greatly increases the odds that vital structures will be hit and incapacitation will be rapid. Remember, we only shoot if the target is an otherwise unavoidable, grave, imminent threat to our lives, or the life of someone we’re responsible for. If he meets those criteria, he needs to be put down and out of the fight as quickly as possible. If he’s still up and hostile after 3-5 shots, it’s time to transition to Plan B.

2005 Tactical Conference & Winter Indoor Championship



The annual Winter Indoor Championship and Tactical Conference will be conducted at Rangemaster on the last

weekend in February. This year the event has expanded to four days, with special one day classes on Friday and Monday, and the main event on Saturday-Sunday. Almost a dozen of the top trainers in the US will be conducting training seminars, plus we have an exciting and challenging low light match, with reactive mannequin targets and stimulating scenarios. There are a few openings left for this unique annual event.

Congratulations!

Cecil Booker is a 23 year veteran Deputy Sheriff with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, and a lead instructor here at Rangemaster. Cecil was recently promoted to Lieutenant, and assigned as a shift commander with the Narcotics Unit. Our hearty congratulations and best wishes for success in your new assignment.

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Student in a Combative Pistol II course firing while seated, an important skill.