



Tactical Talk

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If the professor on Gilligan's Island can make a radio out of a coconut, why can't he fix a hole in a boat?

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Defensive 1911 Course

Saturday-Sunday, June 17-18, 2006

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. both days

The classic 1911 .45 auto is arguably the finest all-around combat handgun ever designed. It does, however, require an informed, educated, and dedicated user to fulfill its potential.

This class is intended for those who wish to carry a 1911 pistol for self defense. Students should already be a graduate of at least Level II Handgun prior to this class. You will need a pistol, holster, at least three magazines, and a magazine pouch, plus 500 rounds of factory loaded, jacketed ammunition.

There will be classroom time covering the following topics:
History and Design of the 1911
Mechanical Operation
Desirable/Undesirable Modifications
Holster Selection
Ammunition Selection
Accessories
Proper Maintenance for Reliable Operation.

There will also be extensive live-fire training on the range.

Tuition is \$150.00, and class size is limited. Call 901-370-5600 to register.

Real Estate Violence

Many of the readers of this newsletter are in the business of selling real estate, or have friends or relatives who are. This is a high risk profession, although oddly enough, most members don't seem to realize the risks. In 2000 alone, 21 real estate agents or brokers were murdered on the job. From 1982 to 2000, 206 died as a result of violent assaults while showing homes. Many times that number were raped, beaten, or robbed by "clients" or by squatters, dopers, and general thugs.

To some degree, the real estate agent's life style attracts violence. Even a moderately successful agent tends to dress well, wear jewelry, and drive a fairly new, fairly upscale car. Many agents are female, and travel alone to vacant houses, often in only partially occupied new subdivisions. (Hint: if walking in bear country, avoid smearing yourself with honey unless you're capable of handling the bears.)



There are some things a real estate professional can do to minimize and control the risks associated with meeting strangers at vacant or isolated homes. Of course, one common sense step would be to get some self defense training. For women especially, the only successful defense against a larger, stronger, more violent male attacker would involve the "victim" being armed and trained to use a weapon. Without proper training, possession of a handgun just elevates your risks. With training, however, the agent can regain control over his fate.

Here are some other suggestions to reduce your risks, whether you are routinely armed or not:

Identify your clients. Have a form for new clients to fill out, with personal ID information, and if possible, make a copy of their driver's license.

Keep an itinerary, and be sure someone else has a copy. If you go missing, this gives others an idea where to look for you. Stay in frequent contact with your office.

Keep your car in good running order, and never let the gas tank go below half full. Running out of gas or having a flat in a remote subdivision could lead to bigger problems.

Keep your cell phone with you at all times, and keep the battery fully charged. Have 911 on speed dial.

If you must meet a client at a vacant home, remember these precautions-
Look the house over as you approach. Look for signs of entry (squatters or burglars) and vandalism. Take note of the exits.
Avoid attics and basements.
Let the client lead the way. Always walk behind him.

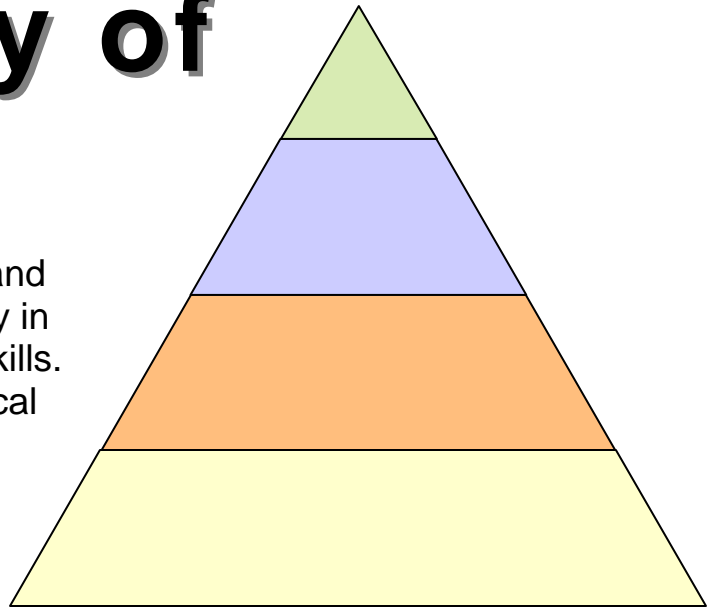
Avoid glamour shots on ads and business cards. Sexual predators have been known to target specific female agents based on these photos.

Have a plan. Think about these issues in advance, and have a plan of action already considered. Understand that this CAN happen to you.



Hierarchy of Skills

We all know that we must train in, and establish and maintain, competency in both mental and physical fighting skills. Without the mental skills, the physical skills (gunhandling and marksmanship) will be of no value. In this discussion though, let's focus on the physical skills we need to master.



For most of us, training time is limited, and we have to budget our time to give us the maximum benefit from our efforts. I believe there are two categories of shooting skills: critical skills and secondary skills. Critical skills are those that are almost certainly going to be involved in any self defense shooting situation. Secondary skills are not less important, they are simply less likely to be needed. If you're the guy who has to pull off a secondary skill to survive, you'd better be able to do it! By categorizing the skills, we simply learn which ones we need to spend the bulk of our training time on, and remind ourselves to occasionally work on the others.

CRITICAL SKILLS- The following short list of skills must be mastered. This requires proper training, and a fair bit of practice, both live and dry fire.

The Presentation- You will not be wandering around a modern city with a gun in your hand! For social and political reasons, as well as tactical considerations, your gun will be concealed on your person. You can't do anything with it until you produce it. You must be able to present your pistol from concealment quickly, efficiently, and safely.

Movement Off Line- As you present the weapon, you may need to displace from the spot that bullets, blades, or clubs are headed toward. You must be able to move without disrupting your presentation.

Rapid Target Acquisition- The other guy is not waiting his turn—his turn is concurrent with yours. You must be able to reliably place several rounds quickly and accurately in the vital area of your assailant before he does the same to you. You must be able to do this under varied lighting conditions.

Reloading- You should be familiar with both Speed Reloads and Emergency Reloads. If your gun runs out, fix it, quickly.

Malfunction Clearance- Your gun is actually more likely to malfunction during a fight than in practice. You should be programmed to quickly fix stoppages and get back in the fight.

SECONDARY SKILLS- Once the skills listed above are mastered, the following skills should be learned, and practiced.

Firing with One Hand- Hits to hands and forearms are very common. You should be able to deliver controlled, accurate fire with either hand.

Longer Ranges- The ability to hit at extended distances can be very comforting. You should be able to reliably hit a torso sized target out to at least 50 yards.

Flashlight Use- This skill is far more important in the police/military context, but a private citizen should be familiar with a couple of flashlight/pistol shooting techniques.

Use of Cover- In short range personal confrontations, cover may be unavailable or beyond reach. In situations where there is any warning, however, early movement to cover can be a life-saver. You need to know how to use cover properly, however.

Position Shooting- Shooting positions other than Standing (Kneeling, Double Kneeling, Prone) can be very useful under certain circumstances. You should be familiar with their application.

In every practice session, spend the bulk of your time working on Critical Skills. Devote some time each practice session to one or two Secondary Skills. Overtime, you will develop a complete repertoire of skills, and one day you may be very glad you did.

Defensive AR/Carbine Course



On Saturday, May 13, Rangemaster will conduct a one day class at the Memphis Police Academy in the use of the AR-15 type carbine in defending your home in a post-Katrina disaster scenario. We will be firing on the indoor range for close quarter skills, and fire on the outdoor range out to 100 yards. Class time is 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the MPD Academy in Frayser.



Summer is here. We have a large assortment of lightweight concealment vests in various sizes and colors !

South Narc Extreme Close Quarter Course

June 17th-18th
Saturday—Sunday

*Intensive live-fire and
Simunitions training in fighting
at bad breath distance at
Rangemaster, Memphis.*

We suggest you have at least Level III prior to this course, which will involve both shooting and fighting skills, including weapon retention and accessing your gun during a physical assault.

Annual Three-Day Firearms Instructor Development Course

Our annual instructor course will be conducted on August 4-6, 2006, Friday through Sunday. This is an intensive course, with both classroom and range instruction. Graduates become State Certified Handgun instructors in Tennessee. All ammunition is provided, along with an huge reference manual and all study materials. Cost is \$399.00. Students learn to operate and shoot a wide variety of handguns and learn to instruct and coach others. Even if you have no desire to teach, there is no better way to learn a lot about current defensive shooting technique and "why" we do "what" we do.

LEVEL III HANDGUN

We have a few slots left in the Level III Handgun course on June 6-7, Tuesday-Wednesday evenings. You will need about 400 rounds of ammunition for this class.

Defensive Shotgun Course

Rangemaster will conduct a Defensive Shotgun Course on June 26-27, 2006, in Memphis. This is a Monday-Tuesday evening class, from 6:00 to 10:00 pm both nights. Tuition is \$199.00, which includes all needed ammunition (birdshot, buckshot, and slugs) plus a workbook. We will have a few loaner shotguns for those who have not made a purchase yet and want to learn about the shotgun first.

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