



Tactical Talk

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“False is the idea of utility that sacrifices a thousand real advantages for one imaginary or trifling inconvenience; that would take fire from men because it burns, and water because one may drown in it; that has no remedy for evils except destruction. The laws that forbid the carrying of arms are laws of such a nature. They disarm only those who are neither inclined nor determined to commit crimes.”

-- Cesare Beccaria, as quoted by Thomas Jefferson's *Common-place book*

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SCHOOL SHOOTINGS



In just one week in September there were three horrible school shootings in the US, resulting in the deaths of a principal and a half dozen innocent school children. Predictably, these incidents prompted a cry from the grasseaters for more gun control. Pathetically, the sheep don't realize that efforts to make people "feel safer" are partially to blame for the carnage.

When I was a child there were very few gun laws. You could buy guns mail order, and there was no law against carrying on school property. With a history teacher's blessings, I brought guns to High School as exhibits about the Civil War and the Plains Wars, and I shot on our High School rifle team. There were NO school shootings in those days.

Now, demented psycho's intent on raping and murdering young girls go to schools, because the offender KNOWS he will be the only one armed. "Gun free zones" are nothing more than "Victim Preserves", the private hunting grounds of criminals, psycho's and terrorists. It should be obvious (even to a politician) that only law abiding citizens are going to abide by a law. Therefore, the only people these gun free zone laws disarm are law abiding citizens. Murdering children is the most heinous crime a criminal can commit. Someone intent on murdering children is certainly not going to be deterred by a gun control law.

Some years ago in Israel, a group of terrorists took over an elementary school and killed a number of children. The Israeli response was to train and arm teachers and school staff. The result? There has never been another attack on a school in Israel. Putting out a "NO GUNS" sign is the same as putting out a welcome mat for murderers.

Oklahoma recently enacted a law that allows school principals and certain others to be armed at school, after training and issue of a permit. Other states should follow this example. If one teacher had been armed at Columbine, for instance, perhaps some of those children would be alive today. You cannot protect your children with signs or even with laws. They deserve to be actually physically protected from harm.

Almost everybody carries a folding knife on his person. We can even have a pocket knife in areas where carrying a handgun is not possible. Most, however, have no idea how to use a knife in self defense in an emergency. In December, Southnarc will return to Rangemaster to conduct his Edged Weapons Overview course, an excellent introduction to use of the small knife in self defense.

EDGED WEAPONS OVERVIEW

The Edged Weapons Overview course is a 16 hour focused overview of knife application methods that will give the student a fundamental and broad understanding of edged weapons. Like all ShivWorks courses EWO is contextually underscored and emphasizes conceptual framework applied through the minimalist, functional toolbox. All software is presented from the “reductionist’s” point of view to maximize retention and maintenance efficiency. Topics to be covered in the course include:

Day One:

- ◆ The Criminal Assault Paradigm
- ◆ Managing Unknown Contacts
- ◆ Default Position and basic blows
- ◆ Tool Survey
- ◆ Robust Folder Deployment
- ◆ Theory of In-Fight Weapons Access
- ◆ In-Extremis application

Day Two

- ◆ Mobility and Zoning Issues of equal initiative encounters
- ◆ Plyometric Fighting Platform
- ◆ Point Theory, forward and reverse grip
- ◆ Conventional Edge introduction
- ◆ Refining the narrow angle
- ◆ Reverse Edge introduction
- ◆ The Functional Support Hand
- ◆ Specialty and Improvised Edged tools (push daggers, ice picks, screwdrivers, etc.). This module is largely based on what students bring to the class and wish to see addressed.



Equipment Required: Comfortable clothes, wrap-around eye protection, mouthpiece and cup, preferred carry knives.

Equipment recommended: Any training knives, folding or fixed the student may have along with their standard everyday carry gear, such as holsters or magazine pouches. A “red” or “blue” dummy gun is acceptable but **NO LIVE FIREARMS ARE PERMITTED IN THE TRAINING ENVIRONMENT.**

ShivWorks courses are mildly anaerobic in nature and the student should come with the understanding that they will be subjected to mild to greater than mild impact as part of the coursework.

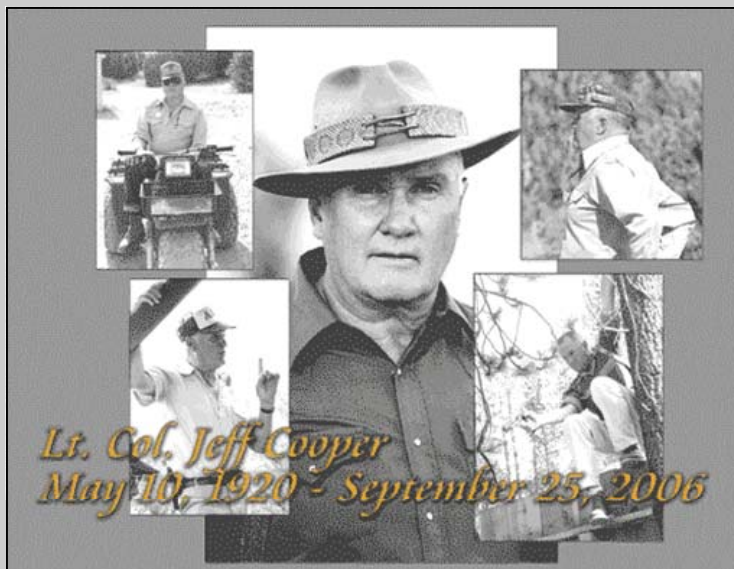
Conducted at Rangemaster, Memphis, on Saturday-Sunday, December 2-3, 2006. Cost is \$325.00. A deposit of \$100.00 will hold a space, balance due 15 days before class. Call 901-370-5600 to register.

John Dean “Jeff” Cooper, 1920-2006

On Sept 25, 2006, the shooting and training world lost one of its most influential and memorable personalities, Jeff Cooper. Jeff was a very rare combination of qualities: a scholar with a degree in history; a warrior, with personal combat experience as a Marine officer in WWII and Korea; an accomplished author, with numerous books and scores of magazine articles to his credit; a tireless promoter of individual liberty and gun rights; and a loving father and husband. Jeff will be best remembered, however, as the “Father of the Modern Technique”.

In the 1950's and 1960's Jeff founded two shooting organizations, the Bear Valley Gunslingers and later the Southwest Combat Pistol League. For the first time, these organizations moved from traditional bullseye shooting to open competition, using defensive type firearms under

conditions meant to simulate armed conflict. Many very talented people were involved in these early efforts, including Ray Chapman, Jack Weaver, Eldon Carl, Thell Reed, and John Plahn. Cooper made a systematic study of the techniques developed by these shooters and codified a systematic training methodology that came to be known as the Modern Technique. In the 1970's, as interest in this type of shooting grew Cooper invited a number of luminaries to the Columbia Conference, from which sprang the International Practical Shooting Confederation (IPSC), an organization that



now conducts shooting competition all over the world. In 1977 Jeff opened Gunsite, a well equipped modern training facility in the high desert of Arizona. This was the first firearms training school open to *private citizens*, rather than restricted to law enforcement and military personnel. Gunsite still operates today, and many consider it one of the foremost training academies in the world.

Jeff's contributions to defensive firearms training are so numerous and profound that they are hard to list. His teachings are the core of most modern firearms training systems, and many of the best known firearms trainers in the US were early students of Jeff at Gunsite, including Clint Smith, Chuck Taylor, Ken Hackathorn, Louis Awerbuck, Randy Cain, Pat Rogers, and others. I attended advanced training at Gunsite in 1980, and the experience shaped a lot of my development as a shooter and as a trainer. Although we don't teach exactly what we did in 1980, much of Rangemaster's core training philosophy is straight from Jeff Cooper's tutelage.

Jeff is survived by Janelle, his wife of 66 years, and a number of children and grandchildren. His legacy will continue as long as free men bear arms.

TACTICAL CONFERENCE 2007

Each winter, Rangemaster hosts our annual Tactical Conference in Memphis. Almost a hundred practitioners from literally all over the U.S. converge here for classroom seminars, hands-on exercises in our mat rooms, and some very realistically oriented shooting exercises. Each year some of the best trainers in the country provide lectures and practical demonstrations for the attendees, with classes going on concurrently all over the facility. In recent conferences the trainers present included John Farnam, Skip Gochenour, Steve Moses, Marty Hayes, James Yeager, Karl Rehn, Gabe Suarez, John Hearne, SouthNarc, Andy Stanford, David Blinder, Tom Givens, and others. This has become one of the premiere events of the year for serious students of the defensive arts.

At the same time all these classes are going on, we conduct a shooting event in our large indoor range. Attendees have an assigned time to report to the range and be subjected to a series of shooting exercises designed to test their repertoire of handgun skills under stressful, realistic conditions. All shooting is done from concealment, with carry gear and full power ammo. Back-up guns are specifically allowed, the use of cover, when available, is required, and all shooting is done in dim light. Lighting varies from stage to stage, from almost dark to the light levels one normally encounters in public urban areas at night. Targets are reactive humanoid figures, which are clothed and very realistic.

We have received final approval to move the annual Tactical Conference to the excellent facilities of the Memphis Police Department Training Academy. This is great news. The academy has larger classrooms, with modern audio-visual equipment, a large, 25 lane indoor range, a fifty-point outdoor range, a rifle range, and a huge funhouse. We will make use of all of these this year, with live fire both indoors and out, and airsoft scenarios in the funhouse.

We have a number of new trainers involved this year, to help us take advantage of the additional space. There will be a patrol rifle segment on the rifle range, and live fire shotgun training. We will have AR's and shotguns on hand for those who will be traveling by air and don't want to travel with a long gun. The usual suspects will be on hand, as well, with numerous classroom presentations and hands-on training segments.

We have an astounding array of trainers for the 2007 event. The police academy firearms complex has numerous ranges and classrooms, so we'll be able to do far more than in years past.

Here are some of the trainers and their topics:

John Farnam, Defensive Shotgun, live fire on the range
 Jeff Chudwin, Patrol Rifle, live fire on the range
 Steve Moses, Carbine Snap-Shooting, live fire on the range
 Paul Gomez, Jamie Jackson, Ian McDevitt- Gunshot Wound Treatment for Combatants, classroom
 Skip Gochenour, Criminal Psychology, classroom
 Will Andrews, Instructor Development, classroom
 Lee Aldridge, Hand to Hand Skills Integrated with Gun
 John Hearne, Tactics, classroom
 William Aprill, Handgun Disarms/Retention
 Karl Rehn, Airsoft Force on Force scenarios, Funhouse



This is all in addition to extensive scenario-based shooting, both indoors and outdoors in the shooting event.

The dates for this event are Saturday-Sunday, Feb. 24-25, 2007.

Cost for this event is only \$125.00. This fee will cover match entry, ALL training events, and a random prize drawing at the awards ceremony. We'll give away at least one gun and a bunch of other neat prizes.

The competitive shooting event will involve several scenarios, both indoors and outside. We have a new reactive human target, designed by John Hearne, that works reliably while looking remarkably realistic. We will need a few additional workers this year, due to the expanded shooting. If you would like to work one half day both Saturday and Sunday, you get free entry to the event and attend training any time but your assigned work shift.

Attention Snub Owners & Shooters . . .*Coming soon to Rangemaster!*

Essentials of the Defensive Snub Revolver

On Saturday December 2, 2006 from 9AM to 5PM

Mastering the Defensive Snub Revolver

On Sunday December 3, 2006 from 9AM to 5PM

As profiled in Combat Handguns, Guns & Weapons for Law Enforcement and S.W.A.T. magazine. The **Essentials of the Defensive Snub Revolver** class introduces you to the critical snub foundation skills, while the **Mastering the Defensive Snub Revolver** class teaches you how to exploit the snub's every tactical advantage. Class topics include:

Essential class includes:

- Introduction to the snub
- Snub brand nomenclature
- Snub inspection and care
- Foundation snub handling skills
- Fitting the snub to the shooter
- Fitting the grips to the snub
- Best snub ammo options
- Gun leather for the snub
- Concealed snub draw skills
- Exercises for a faster a draw
- Uncommon ready positions
- One- and two-hand grip positions
- Mastering the snub's higher bore axis
- Classic snub shooting drills
- FBI, LFI & NTS snub loading skills
- Snub specific marksmanship drills
- Using the snub's short-sight radius
- Use-of-cover shooting with snub revolvers
- Low position shooting basics
- Introduction to snub revolver defensive tactics
- Post-range snub care and cleaning

Mastering class includes:

- 25 reasons the snub beats the auto
- Advanced snub features
- Gunsmithing options - pros and cons
- Aftermarket and factory snub safeties
- Ammunition for the self-defense snub
- Best snub concealment holsters
- Advanced snub handling skills, carries and draws
- Advanced speed loading skills
- "Newhall" loading tactics
- Practical speedloader tactics
- Putting speed into speed strips
- Snub and tactical light handling
- Stuck cylinder and squib round clearing drills
- Case-under-the-ejector clearing drills
- One hand only reloading
- Five feet to fifty yard shooting
- English, Arizona and Kenik shooting drills
- Safely shooting through pockets
- Maximizing contact shooting
- Snub specific weapon retention
- Snub as emergency impact weapon
- Snub specific gunfight strategy
- Conclusions

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These snub programs present shooting methods and manipulations unique to the short-barreled revolver, as well as improve the snub owner's defensive snub handling skills. Shooters should have an understanding of fundamental gun safety, as well as the revolver's basic operation. Please note that attending Essential of the Defensive Snub Revolver is a prerequisite for attending Mastering the Defensive Snub Revolver.

For complete information visit us at **www.NTSTraining.net** or telephone (978)-667-5591

"Mr. de Bethencourt's mastery of snubology boggles the mind. It appears that he has left no stone unturned in his quest to bring this topic to the forefront of contemporary firearms training. He is indeed the 'sensei of snubs'". - Lt. Michael Boyle, Senior Firearms Training Officer for the Division of Fish, Game and Wildlife Bureau of Law Enforcement, Robbinsville, NJ and nationally known firearms writer."

"Mr. de Bethencourt has decades of experience with the snub-nose revolvers to share. He offers a very lively and informative program and will challenge your thinking on these under-rated fighting guns." - Ralph Mroz, Training Director for the Police Officers Safety Association and author of DEFENSIVE SHOOTING FOR REAL-LIFE ENCOUNTERS."

