



# Tactical Talk

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"I have learned that there are troubles of more than one kind, some come from ahead and some come from behind, but I've brought a big bat, I am all ready you see, now my troubles are going to have troubles with me"  
-Dr. Seuss

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## 2009 Tactical Conference



The annual Rangemaster Tactical Conference has become one of the premiere training events on the circuit. The 2008 event was a huge success. Over 135 shooters attended, from all over the US. We had live-fire, classroom, and hands-on training segments, put on by 17 of the finest firearms and tactics trainers in the US. The shooting match involved reactive 3-D mannequins representing both threats and non-threats, in realistic scenarios. Targets even shot back, with blank firing shotguns, adding to the stress and realism. The 2009 event promises to be the best ever! We are pleased and proud to announce that the 2009 Tactical Conference will be held at the fabulous new facilities of the United States Shooting Academy, in Tulsa, OK. USSA is a fantastic new training complex, with numerous ranges, modern classrooms, a shoot-house and more. Holding the event at USSA will enable us to accommodate a lot of practitioners, and Tulsa is just about the geographic center of the US. There will be live fire training, in addition to the scenarios, and there will be a scenario to take advantage of the shoot-house. All of the usual trainers will be present, plus some new surprises. Instructors providing training segments will include: Tom Givens, John Farnam, Massad Ayoob, Steve Moses, Skip Gochenour, Hany Mahmoud, T.J. Pilling, Karl Rehn, Mike Brown, Paul Gomez, John Hearne, William Aprill, and others.

For more details on the facility, see [www.usshootingacademy.com](http://www.usshootingacademy.com). Entry fee will remain \$149.00, which is quite a bargain. Call 901-370-5600 to register. Advance registration is required, and this event fills two-three months in advance every year. Don't delay.

Over the weekend of April 19-20, 2008, in Chicago a total of 32 people were shot, six of them fatally, in incidents scattered all over the city. Predictably, the police chief blamed it all on "too many guns". What planet is this guy from? Illinois is one of only two states in the entire US with NO permit to carry. Handguns have been outlawed in Chicago since the 1970's, and in Illinois you have to have a Firearms Owner Identification Card, issued by the State Police, just to buy a box of ammunition. In other words, Chicago is tied with Washington, D.C., for the most draconian and stringent gun control laws in the United States. Guess who ignores these laws completely? Right—thugs. The only result of these gun bans is a completely defenseless urban population, left at the mercy of the merciless.



# “Rangemaster Special” Shotguns

Two to three times each year at Rangemaster we teach a Defensive Shotgun Course. This course is geared toward defending your family during a home invasion, or defending your home or business in a post-Katrina type environment. During this class, we talk about and demonstrate the various modifications that an owner can make to enhance the handling/shooting characteristics of the defensive shotgun. We decided to make a shotgun that exactly fit the specifications we put forth in that class, and offer them for sale, ready to use.

To accomplish this, we hired a Remington factory certified armorer and gave him a very specific set of specifications. The guns start out as brand new 12 gauge Remington 870 Express Magnum shotguns, which then receive the following modifications:

Short length of pull synthetic stock, with deluxe R3 recoil pad. The slightly shorter stock fits almost everyone better, the recoil pad is better than the factory version, and the top of the recoil pad is rounded to prevent snagging on clothing as the gun is mounted.

Two shot factory magazine extension is added, with a support clamp at the muzzle. The factory magazine spring has been replaced with the part from the 870 Police Model. The magazine has a high visibility follower. This gives the gun a seven shot capacity.

The extractor, extractor spring, and trigger spring have been replaced with heavier duty parts for the 870 Police Model. This greatly enhances reliability and durability.

The entire gun is finished in matte black.

We also offer a version exactly as above, but with open rifle sights, for accuracy with slugs. We also offer a version with the Knoxx SpecOps collapsing butt-stock, similar to the one on an M-4 carbine. This allows collapsing the length of the stock for use by people with very short arms, such as small women. All three versions are priced at less than it would cost you to buy an 870 and have a gunsmith make these same modifications for you, and they come with a full one-year warranty. Check them out at Rangemaster.



# WARM WEATHER CARRY CLOTHING

Hot summer weather is upon us again. The temptation is to carry a small pocket gun or not be armed at all, both of which may be very poor choices. It is not hard to carry a full size gun adequately concealed, if your clothing is selected carefully.

One common choice is the typical "tactical" vest, such as offered by 5.11 and others. These will conceal your gear quite well, but they aren't very dressy. To those in the know they scream "gun", although 99% of the sheeple will never notice them. They just look vaguely out of place in most environments, however.

Much better choices in concealment vests exist, however. Smith & Alexander makes a very simple dress vest that is made of lightweight synthetic material. It has two side pockets and one breast pocket, and works well in a casual environment.

Concealed Carry Clothiers makes their Tropical Vest, which I wear daily in warm weather. These are very functional vests, made of a very lightweight and cool synthetic material, in a number of colors, including a light olive green, a light slate blue, and others. A mesh panel and vented cape allow air circulation and these vests can be worn in the hottest and most humid environments comfortably, hence the name Tropical Vest.

Bullfrog Skin offers well tailored dress vests made of high grade lightweight wool gabardine, in a variety of colors and finishes. These look fine with a dress shirt and tie in an office environment. They are fully lined and very dressy. I often wear one of these when a dress shirt and dress slacks are worn.

[www.smithandalexander.com](http://www.smithandalexander.com)

[www.concealedcarry.com](http://www.concealedcarry.com)

[www.bullfrogskin.com](http://www.bullfrogskin.com)

Although I don't care for 5.11's vest, they have a new product that does show promise. Their Covert Casual Shirt is a button up short-sleeve shirt designed specifically to wear a gun under. The buttons are for looks—there are snaps behind them which make it easy to pop the shirt open if needed. The side vents have slits, closed with Velcro, that rip away to expose a belt level gun or spare magazines. The lower part of the shirt is lined with a material that breaks up the outline of the gear worn on your belt. This shirt is available in several colors and patterns and is designed to be worn with the tail out in a casual setting. I've tried one and like it a lot. [www.qmuniforms.com](http://www.qmuniforms.com)

# Handgun Practice Kits

## ***Ten Minutes A Day To Better Shooting***

**Created by a Champion Master Class Shooter to help YOU shoot better**

### Why A Practice Kit?

Good shooting is not only the result of knowing correct technique, but also from performing enough repetitions of the technique so that it becomes second nature to you. WHEN you last practiced is frequently more important than HOW MUCH you last practiced.

Practice can, and should, be done both live fire (with ammunition) and dry fire (without ammunition). Dry fire is one of the secrets of highly competent shooters. Unfortunately, most people don't know how to practice, either live or dry. They go to the range, waste ammunition, and only practice at the range. Really good shooters practice often, both at the range and at home, and they use their practice sessions effectively.

This kit can make you a much better shooter in a short period of time by guiding you through the process of practicing successfully. And because much of your practice is done dry (without ammunition) it is quite inexpensive.

### **Contents of the Kit:**

- **Computer CD (Disk #1)** containing:
  - o Video Demonstration of how to Safely and Effectively use Dry Fire
  - o Printable Dry Fire Targets
  - o Instructions on how to get the most from your live fire practice sessions
  - o Printable live fire drills for your range sessions to improve your shooting ability
  - o Printable self defense practice scenarios based on actual incidents
  - o Adobe® Reader® and Windows Media™ Player software
- **Audio CD (Disk #2)** plays in any CD player
  - o Dry Fire Session 1 – Single Target
  - o Dry Fire Session 1 – Double Target

This kit was designed and produced by Claude Werner, the Chief Instructor at the world renowned Rogers Shooting School. There is a kit for semi-automatic handguns, and a kit especially for snub nosed revolvers. Either kit is only \$29.95, plus \$3.00 for shipping for mail or phone orders. Call 901-370-5600 to order yours today.

Tom Given's™ latest book, *Fighting Smarter*, is a general guide to armed self defense for the private citizen. Organized into 34 chapters, this book covers the basics of mental preparation, personal tactics, and the nuts and bolts of equipment selection and shooting technique. Many of the chapters deal with the often overlooked aspects of being mentally prepared to defend one's self and family.

Chapters on these subjects include:

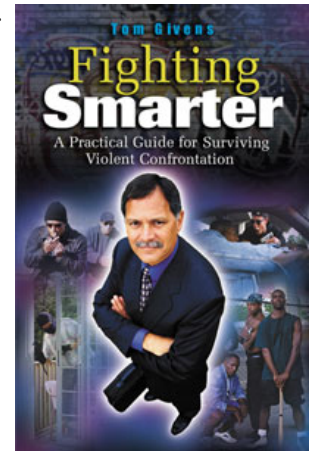
- Appropriate Use of Force
- Principles of Personal Defense
- States of Awareness, the Cooper Color Codes
- Zen and Pistolcraft
- Controlling Fear
- Making Sound Decisions Under Stress and more.

There are also a number of chapters dealing with "hardware issues" such as:

- Selecting a Sidearm
- Holster Design
- Clothing for Concealed Carry
- Calibers and Ammunition and much more

*Fighting Smarter* includes 241 pages and numerous illustrations and photos.

The third edition of this book is now available in print format. The book is only \$27.95, plus \$4.00 for shipping and handling. Order yours today by calling 901-370-5600, or fax orders to 901-370-5699.



## Federal HST Defensive Ammunition

Federal's HST line of police duty ammunition has garnered an excellent reputation over the past 2-3 years. It is perhaps the most effective defensive handgun ammunition available, with dramatic expansion, deep penetration, reliable function, and excellent accuracy. The 9mm 124 grain +P loading is my choice in that caliber,

with a muzzle velocity over 1200 fps in typical 9mm handguns, and expansion in the .65" range. I carry a .40 caliber Glock 35, and my carry load is HST 180 grain. This ammunition is more accurate than many so-called "match loads" in my guns, and the .40 HST opens to .80"-.85" in ballistic gelatin. We have obtained a good supply of this ammunition, in handy 50 round boxes, at a better price than typical service ammunition. We have the following versions in stock at Rangemaster: 9mm, 124 grain +P HST; .40 S&W 180 grain HST; .45 Auto, 230 grain HST.



# Women's Self Defense

Earlier this year, Meredith Emerson, age 24, was hiking on a mountain trail in a park in Georgia with her large black Lab dog when she was attacked, overpowered, murdered, and decapitated by one Gary Michael Hilton, age 61. Hilton was subsequently apprehended when he used Emerson's credit cards in a nearby town. He has since plead guilty to her murder, and is being investigated by state and federal authorities who are convinced he is responsible for at least three other murders along the Appalachian Trail. In each case, he attacked campers or hikers and beat them to death.

Meredith Emerson's murder by this man illustrates a key point we've been trying to get across to women for years. Unarmed women are simply not able to fight grown men on even footing. This simple truth should be self evident to any but the most naïve, but we continually run across women who are convinced that they don't need firearms and gun skills. Ms. Emerson was 24 years old, physically fit, and had studied martial arts in a dojo for two years, right up to the time of her death. She was hiking accompanied by a large dog. Yet, a 61 year old man with a knife abducted and murdered her after a violent physical struggle. Hilton is a skinny, scraggly, street person, not an imposing figure at all, yet he was able to brutally murder several people. Why? **Because they were all unarmed!**

The following was posted on a public forum by a gentleman whose wife and mother attended the April Ladies Only class.

"Yesterday, I had to opportunity to get my mother and my wife to go to the Rangemas-ter ladies only class in Memphis. Its an intro class on guns and guns safety taught by ladies for ladies.

I have tried to get my wife to go to the range with me with no luck. She would never even want to handle a gun at home, when I tried to show her safe gun handling. My mother, I have worked on getting to go shooting with no luck.

Yesterday when they attended the class, they are both much more willing. My wife says she wants to go to the range with me next time I go. She said she wants to practice and get better.

I got to debrief them over dinner after the class. They said they appreciated it being ladies only. They said it was very basic and easy to understand. They started out slowly and simply and progressed to the firing line. They both commented on how professional the instruction was, and said the instructor cadre was gentle but firm.

My wife did really well. My mother still is a bit afraid but is going to retake the class again, but at least she is now considering getting her permit and buying a gun and in-

*(Continued from page 6)*

vesting in more training, possibly one on one training with one of the lady instructors at Rangemaster.

My wife on the ride home was talking about gun safety and keeping the finger off the trigger till your about to shoot. She made mention of some examples of LEO who shot someone accidentally because their fingers were on the trigger. When I said they don't really get extensive gun training in the academy she replied, why don't they at least pay for more out of their pocket? Its their life they will save.

She also is now talking about the terrible gun handling on TV and in the movies. Its interesting. She seemed really excited about shooing, she even said she was surprised she could hit the target. She did good, I have the target. I think I might have to go buy her, her own Glock now. 🇺🇸 She might also get her permit.

Over all this sounded like the perfect class if your wife or girlfriend is hesitant about guns. It would be worth the while to travel to Memphis for this session. It was very empowering to both of them. My mother is now going to try to get my aunt and my sister to attend the next class with her.”



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By RYAN J. FOLEY, Associated Press Writer *Thu May 1, 11:50 PM ET*

A college student apparently called 911 from her cell phone shortly before she was killed but a dispatcher hung up, failed to call back and never sent police to investigate, authorities said Thursday. Madison Police Chief Noble Wray said it was too early to know whether a better response could have prevented the April 2 slaying of Wisconsin-Madison student Brittany Zimmermann or helped police capture her killer. Authorities refused to release the content of the phone call, but Wray said it should have been enough for the Dane County 911 Center to take it seriously. "It would be accurate to state that there is evidence contained in the call, which should have resulted in a Madison police officer being dispatched," Wray said at a news conference. "The 911 center did not call back to the telephone number, Madison police were not notified and no officer was sent."

Zimmermann, 21, was found slain in her apartment in an apparently random crime. Police believe someone broke into her apartment before killing her. They have not identified a suspect but have ruled out her fiance, who found her body in the apartment they shared.

Dane County Public Safety Communications Director Joseph Norwick said the dispatcher who received the call from Zimmermann's cell phone inquired several times to determine whether an emergency existed. The dispatcher hung up after receiving no answer and then answered another 911 call that was waiting, he said. The dispatcher failed to call the number back as required under the department's policy, Norwick said.

Norwick said he was investigating the incident and reviewing whether policies should be changed and employees should be disciplined. But he also said, "I don't think there's anything to apologize for at this time."

**Comment: If you actually believe you can call someone else in a crisis, and they'll come save you, you need to face reality. Here, the 911 system serves 930,000 people. Even a priority one call will take 15-20 minutes to process and deliver a police response. If you have 15-20 minutes, you are not in any real danger.**