

## In This Issue

- ▶ LET'S SET THE RECORD STRAIGHT ..... 1
- ▶ 2020 SCHEDULE ..... 2
- ▶ CARRY PERMITS STILL ON THE RISE..... 2
- ▶ RECOMMENDED READING ..... 3
- ▶ A CULTURE OF VICTIMHOOD... 4
- ▶ DRILL OF THE MONTH ..... 5

NOVEMBER 2019

RANGE • MASTER

Volume 23 • Issue 11

# RANGEMASTER

DEFENSIVE TACTICS  
FOR THE REAL WORLD

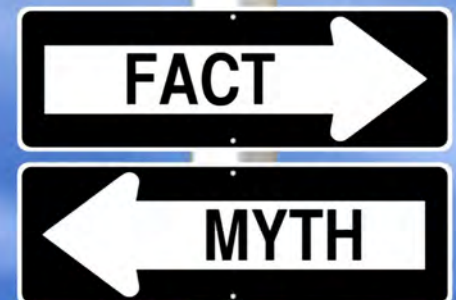
*Firearms Training Services*  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

**In** the gun control debate, as in most things, the truth is this: maybe 10% of the population wants to completely eliminate your right to self defense. Maybe 10% are adamantly opposed to all infringements upon your right to self defense. The 80% in the middle don't care a lot one way or the other.

procedure is a federal felony, with huge fines and prison time. This has been a federal law since 1968, 51 years, pre-dating the internet.



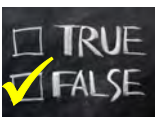
**We must close the  
"Gun Show  
Loophole"!**



## Let's Set the Record Straight

by  
Tom  
Givens

We have to learn to educate and guide the 80% in the middle, so they do not elect those who would strip us of our rights. The antigun crowd has done a much better job of using propaganda and outright lies to influence the 80%. We need to counter those lies with facts, any time this subject comes up with your friends, co-workers, etc. Here are some facts.



**Internet gun sales  
must end!**

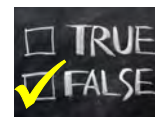
Yes, you can go to Gunbroker.com and other sites and make a deal to purchase a gun from an individual or a dealer in another area. No, that gun cannot be sent to you directly. The gun must be shipped to a federally licensed gun dealer in your state, then you fill out a 4473 and undergo a background check as if you were purchasing the gun from that dealer's inventory. Failure to follow this

Another imaginary problem. Persons "engaged in the business of selling firearms" are required by federal law to have a Federal Firearms License (FFL). FFL holders who sell guns at gun shows are required by federal law to keep elaborate records of every sale, have every purchaser fill out a Form 4473, and obtain a NICS background check on every purchase, just as if the sale took place in their brick and mortar store. Violations are a federal felony, carrying huge fines and significant prison terms. Guns used in crimes and subsequently seized by the police are called "crime guns." The US Department of Justice did a study of crime guns and found that only about 1% were obtained at gun shows. Of course, that means that 99% WERE NOT.



**There is an  
epidemic of "assault  
weapon" deaths.**

No, the FBI crime reports for 2018 just came out. Last year more people were murdered with claw hammers and similar tools than with "assault weapons." More people were murdered by use of hands and feet as impact weapons than by all types of rifles combined.



**Semi-automatic  
guns are new  
technology and are  
too dangerous.**

Semi-automatic firearms have been around since the late 1880s. I have a Savage .32 Auto handgun that holds 11 rounds of ammunition. It was designed in 1905 and entered production and civilian sales in 1907. My specimen was made in 1915, 114 years ago. I have a Winchester Model 1907 rifle, which is a semi-automatic rifle with a detachable high capacity magazine. It was introduced in 1907, as an improved version of a model

# 2020



I know that a lot of you have to plan well in advance to arrange for time off from work, child care and other issues when planning training. Below is our open enrollment schedule for 2020. Please see our Eventbrite page to sign up. I'll see you in class.

- Tom

## Jan 10-12

Establishing a Dominance Paradigm  
Nashville, TN



## Jan 22-23

Advanced Firearms Instructor  
Homestead, FL

## Jan 24-26

Master Pistol Instructor  
Homestead, FL



## Feb 22-23

Combative Pistol  
Bandera, TX

## Mar 6-8

Defensive Shotgun  
Instructor Development  
Leesburg, FL

## Mar 27-29

Tactical Conference  
Dallas, TX

## Apr 3

Defensive Shotgun  
KR Training  
Austin, TX

## Apr 4-5

Combative Pistol  
KR Training  
Austin, TX

produced in 1905. My example was built in 1928. I have a semi-automatic shotgun designed by John Browning in 1899. My example was built in 1927. I could go on, but you get the picture.



**Letting civilians carry guns will result in all sorts of needless violence.**

Wrong. The exact opposite is true. States that have high rates of carry permit holders have significantly lower crime rates than states which do not. In addition, permit holders are the most law-abiding segment of the population. Texas has a million CHL (Concealed Handgun License) holders, and the state tracks them very carefully. This is from an official Texas government report:

*On January 1, 1996, the Texas Concealed Handgun Law went into effect. This law states that the Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) "shall issue" a concealed handgun license (CHL) to any Texas resident who meets the application requirements for character (background check) and training. This is an analysis of arrest data for Texas concealed handgun licensees that was performed on data from the subsequent years of 1996 – 2000. A comparison was made with the arrest data for the entire Texas population*

*for the same time period, showing that, on average: male Texans who are over 21 years old and are not CHL holders are 7.7 times more likely to be arrested for commission of a violent crime than male Texans with a CHL; and female Texans who are over 21 years old and are not CHL holders are 7.5 times more likely to be arrested for commission of a violent crime than female Texans with a CHL. Of the violent crime cases that have been adjudicated, approximately 26% of CHL holders who were arrested were convicted, and 44% are cleared of the violent crimes for which they were arrested.*



**We need an Assault Weapons Ban!**

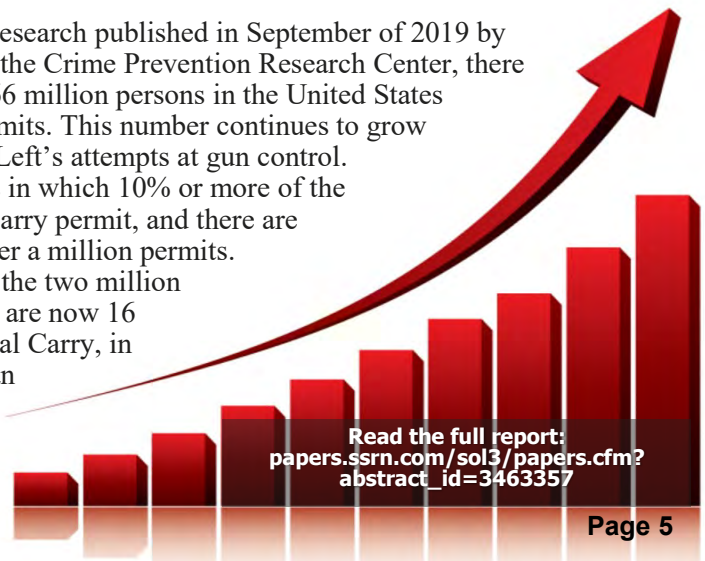
Such a ban was in effect under Federal law for a ten-year period. Among other things, it limited magazine capacity to ten rounds. Various organizations, from the Centers for Disease Control to the U.S. Department of Justice studied the effect of the ban for that ten-year period. They all concluded that the ban had absolutely no effect on crime or violence.

All of these positions are verifiable facts. Use this information to help counter the outright lies used by those who would take away our most basic civil right and human right: the right to self preservation. ■

## Carry Permits Still on the Rise

by  
Tom  
Givens

According to research published in September of 2019 by John Lott of the Crime Prevention Research Center, there are now 18.66 million persons in the United States with handgun carry permits. This number continues to grow every year, despite the Left's attempts at gun control. There are now 13 states in which 10% or more of the adult population has a carry permit, and there are now four states with over a million permits. Florida recently passed the two million mark. In addition, there are now 16 states with Constitutional Carry, in which any adult who can legally own a gun can carry it with no permit required. ■





**Apr 16-19**

NRA Annual Meeting  
Nashville, TN

**Apr 24-25**

Combative Pistol  
Dahlonega, GA

**Apr 26**

Defensive Shotgun  
Dahlonega, GA

**May 11-12**

Advanced Firearms Instructor  
Xenia, OH

**May 13**

Defensive Shotgun  
Xenia, OH

**May 15-16**

Combative Pistol  
Garrettsville, OH

**May 17**

Defensive Shotgun  
Garrettsville, OH

**May 29-31**

Master Instructor  
Jackson, MS

**SOLD  
OUT**

**June 5-7**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Fossil Point; Decatur, TX

**June 12-14**

Defensive Shotgun  
McCloud, OK

**June 20-21**

Advanced Firearms Instructor  
McCloud, OK

**July 21-23**

Firearms Instructor Development  
FAS; Onalaska, WA

**July 24-26**

Northwest Tactical Conference  
FAS; Onalaska, WA

*Recommended Reading*

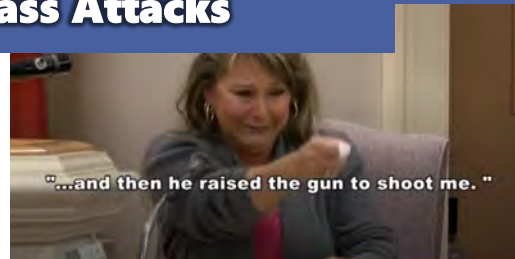
Below are links to articles I think you should read. Click the images to view each article online.

*-Tom*

## Cases Where Permit Holders Have Stopped Mass Attacks

by John R. Lott  
Crime Prevention Research Center  
May 3, 2019

Gun control advocates raise the concern that concealed handgun permit holders who stop an attack might accidentally shoot a bystander. They are also fearful that the police might accidentally kill the permit holder. While such incidents are a possibility, they have yet to occur...." [\[Read More\]](#)



## Defensive Shotgun with Tom Givens



by "Dr. Late Bloomer"  
GAT Daily  
October 8, 2019

It's easy to get caught up in thinking you need "cool guy" accessories even when you aren't a cool guy. All that effort is better spent in actual practice with your actual gun...." [\[Read More\]](#)

## Rangemaster Instructor Development Course

by Greg Ellifritz  
Active Response Training  
October 14, 2019

Most of the so-called CCW 'instructors' have never mastered these basics and would benefit greatly from learning the material that Tom presented...." [\[Read More\]](#)



## Friends Don't Let Friends Open Carry

by Greg Ellifritz  
Active Response Training  
September 24, 2018

Does anyone really think walking into Starbucks with a slung AK-47 will convince a person who doesn't currently own a firearm to support the gun rights cause?" [\[Read More\]](#)



**July 27-28**

Advanced Instructor  
FAS; Onalaska, WA

**Aug 14-16**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Brookville, OH

**Aug 21-23**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Pittsburg, PA

**Aug 29-31**

Advanced Instructor (3-Day)  
South Dakota

**Sep 11-13**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Martinsville, IN

**Sep 18-20**

Gun Rights Policy Conference  
Orlando, FL

**Sep 25-27**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Albuquerque, NM

**Oct 9-11**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Culpeper, VA

**Oct 16-17**

Intensive Pistol Skills  
Florence, SC

**Oct 18**

Defensive Shotgun  
Florence, SC

**Oct 23-25**

Firearms Instructor Development  
Red Hill Range  
Martin, GA

**Nov 7-8**

Rangemaster Instructor Reunion  
and Conference  
Boondocks Firearms Training  
Academy  
Jackson, MS ■

**Culture.** The *Cambridge English Dictionary* defines “culture” as “the way of life, especially the general customs and beliefs, of a particular group of people at a particular time.”

## A Culture of Victimhood

by Tom Givens

In the United States, there are some regional differences, but for the most part, we share pretty much the same culture throughout this country. There are two things most Americans fear, or are concerned about, and both are culturally ingrained fears/concerns, planted in our minds early in life by our parents and others who had a hand in our development. These culturally ingrained fears/concerns, among many others, help keep us safe in a sometimes perilous world.

The two that are almost universal in our culture are a healthy respect for lightning, and a general fear of snakes. These are not innate, or instinctive fears, they were planted in your mind as a child and have stayed with most of us throughout life. Rational people don't stand on the golf course holding an iron, nor on the rifle range holding a shooting iron, while lightning plays across the sky. Instead, we seek shelter. We do this because we were taught early in life that to stay in the open, holding a metal rod, would likely get us fried. If you ask a typical person, especially here in the South, to reach under a woodpile and hand you something, many will flatly refuse. As their reason for refusal, they will cite the almost certain likelihood that they will be bitten by a snake. Again, something you were taught as a child.

According to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA, the National Weather Service and related government activities), each year in the US about 450 to 500 people are struck by lightning. Of these, an average of 51 people per year die from that lightning strike. That's right, just 51.

The University of Florida, Department of Ecology and Conservation, who study such things, reports that in a given year in the United States between 7,000 and 8,000 people are bitten by venomous snakes. Of these, an average of 5 people per year actually die from the snake bite. Yep, 5, in a country of 320 million people. Far more people die from bee stings than from snake bites.

So, if you add deaths from lightning strikes and deaths from snake bites together, they annually account for less than 60 deaths in the entire country. Upon learning this, one might be tempted to say, “It's silly to spend so much time teaching our children to be wary of lightning and poisonous snakes, when so few people are ever killed by either.” I would suggest that this is the wrong conclusion to be drawn from these facts.

It might be smarter to think, “Since our entire culture takes precautions against these potential threats, very, very few people actually fall prey to them.” That's the key. Since almost everyone takes sensible precautions against these threats, the risk is mitigated to a very low level.

One threat most Americans are not taught to deal with from an early age is violent crime. Instead, we do everything possible to encourage victimization. We try earnestly to convince everyone that violent crime only happens to other people. (To every single person on the planet but you, guess who you are? Other people!) “We live in a nice neighborhood.” “We don't hang out with bad people.” “Who'd want to hurt us?” “It'll never happen to me.”

As a result, violent crime is a real, ever present threat in the US. The US Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics recently released the violent



# Drill of the Month:

Throughout 2019 we will be running a Drill of the Month in each edition of the newsletter. The goal is help motivate folks to get to the range and actually shoot their defensive weapons, and to have some fun in the process.

Each month we'll post a drill or a short course of fire. You are encouraged to go to the range, shoot the drill, and then post your thoughts and a photo of your target on the Rangemaster Facebook page. Go shooting!

## 3x5 Card Drill

Range: 3yd, 5yd, 7yd, 10yd, & 15yd  
Target: 3x5 card  
Start Position: Any  
Rounds fired: 6 at each distance, for a total of 30 rounds

Shooter fires six rounds at the target at his own pace for maximum accuracy. For traditional double action guns, three shots should be double action and three shots should be single action in alternating sequence (double, single, double, single, double, single).

At three yards, the goal is to have all six bullet holes touching. After that, all shots need to hit the card. If all six shots hit the card, increase to the next distance. Good luck! ■



crime figures for 2018. They only count “non-fatal” violent crimes, limiting the reporting to Rape or Sexual Assault, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and Simple Assault. This data was copied directly from the BJS official report for 2018:

*The number of violent-crime victims age 12 or older rose from 2.7 million in 2015 to 3.3 million in 2018, an increase of 604,000 victims.*

*The number of violent incidents increased from 5.2 million in 2017 to 6.0 million in 2018.*

Please note that with 6 million violent crimes, that works out to one for every 54 residents of the US, or about one for every 30 adults.

I firmly believe that one of the primary reasons for this astronomical amount of violent crime is the huge pool of victims created by NOT making part of our culture teaching kids that violent crime is as real as lightning and snakes, and that the risk of violent crime can be mitigated the same as with those other threats, by education and simple precautions, if practiced by the majority of the population.

If you are reading this, odds are you are an adult. It's too late for someone to teach this to you as a child, so teach yourself now as a responsible adult. You must, on your own, accept, internalize, and act on these simple facts:

**1** In a single year, your odds of encountering a potentially dangerous criminal involved in a violent crime are **NOT** “one in a million,” they are actually “1 in 54.” That’s a huge difference. Don’t be dismayed when it occurs. Be mentally prepared to accept this eventuality and act to protect yourself and your loved ones. Don’t get stuck in a denial loop, “I can’t believe this is happening to me!”

**2** Accept that no one has a greater stake, nor a more vested interest, in your personal safety and well being than **YOU** do.

**3** Understand and accept that no one is going to come and save you. You are on your own! According to the U.S. Justice Department, the duration of the average interaction with a criminal during a violent crime, from beginning to end of the incident, is about 90 seconds. The average urban police response time to a highest priority call is eleven minutes. In rural areas, response could be in hours! Thus, when seconds count, the police are just minutes away!

**4** Adopt John Farnam’s Rule of Three Stupids:

- ♦ Don’t go to stupid places.
- ♦ Don’t hang out with stupid people.
- ♦ Don’t do stupid things.

**5** Make a habit of simple things, like keeping all doors locked and using your alarm system. Scan your surroundings, especially when going from one environment to another (out of the store, onto the parking lot; out of your car, to the gas pump).

**6** Have the emergency safety equipment you need to respond to a violent, life threatening emergency when it occurs, and have it on your person. You will not be able to go get anything.

We cannot remove risk from daily life. What we can do is control, mitigate and minimize risk by taking precautions against known threats. We could make violent crime as rare as lightning strikes and snake bites, but that would take a massive reshaping of our culture. You can’t do that on your own. What you can do is take steps to reduce that threat for you and your family. Why wouldn’t you do that? ■