



Non-Gun Weapons: Carried and Improvised

An Interview with Michael Janich

Interview by Gila Hayes

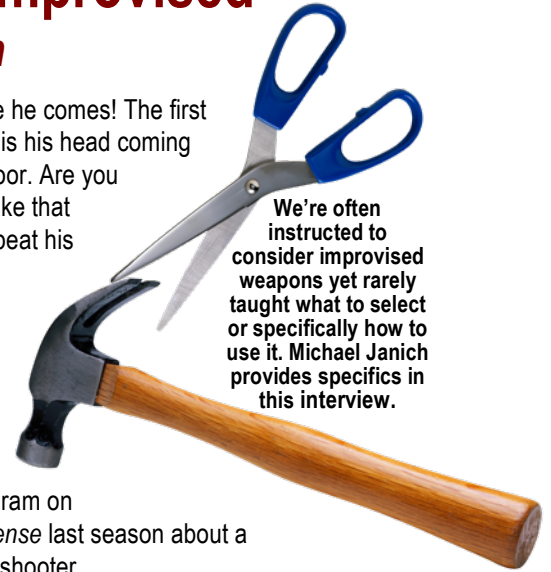
eJournal: Last month, in the Network's online journal (<http://armedcitizensnetwork.org/march-2016-surviving-an-active-shooter>) we talked with you at length about strengthening our defense potential against armed terrorists. A number of times during that discussion, you spoke of defending yourself with whatever is at hand in a no-gun environment. From your long experience as a martial artist, can you outline principles for using improvised weapons to the greatest effect? Because our membership is firearms-focused, many of us may not have given sufficient consideration to improvising impact weapons, like the way you mentioned striking with a hammer, when you were outlining ways to make a classroom safer.

Janich: Whenever I'm asked about this topic, there is always one important thing I try to address first, and that is the mindset you want to achieve. When the media describes successful interventions in active shooter incidents, they typically do us a disservice by describing them in politically correct terms. For example, the U.S. service members who took down the shooter on the train in Belgium last summer. There, you had a situation where people took decisive action, but you often hear from the media things like, "Well, they tackled the shooter. They overpowered him."

If you think in those terms, you are already thinking in the wrong mindset, because you are not trying to keep them from making a touchdown; you are trying to keep them from killing people. If you tackle somebody, what are you going to do once you tackle him? What you need to do is stop him from killing people, so you want to act as decisively and as ruthlessly as possible. Take him out of the fight!

If you look at stopping an active shooter in that context, it puts you in the right mindset to do what you need to do. To go back to the teacher analogy from last month, you have got all the kids hunkered down against the wall, you have the door barricaded and you have got the hammer in your hand. He manages to make it through

the door. Here he comes! The first thing you see is his head coming through the door. Are you prepared to take that hammer and beat his head in? You should be. Be prepared to do what you have got to do.



We're often instructed to consider improvised weapons yet rarely taught what to select or specifically how to use it. Michael Janich provides specifics in this interview.

We did a program on *The Best Defense* last season about a church active shooter (<http://outdoorchannel.com/showepisodes.aspx?show-id=720>). We showed using a pocketknife to disable an active shooter very quickly and very decisively. Some of the criticism we got from that was, "Are you really going to go after a guy armed with a rifle with a pocketknife?" Yes, because the pocketknife is something that I know I have with me all of the time. Obviously, a firearm would be better, but if that's not possible, a purpose-designed weapon is still the preferred choice. I would rather choose my tools if I possibly could.

When you look at improvised weapons in an environment where you do not have any control over what is available, you are relying only on what is there. I'd rather stack the odds in my favor, like the example last month of the teacher with the fire extinguisher.

If we go back to the example of the pocketknife, the primary target in my Martial Blade Concepts system is the flexor tendons on the inside of the wrist, to take away whatever handheld weapons the attacker may have. Cut the tendons and the hand is crippled, so it can't hold a weapon. Well, that also takes away trigger squeeze. If you have access to a knife and you have access to the shooter, the idea is targeting their ability to squeeze the trigger first, especially if you have a pocketknife.

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The idea that I will stab this guy until he stops shooting is a really inefficient way to address the problem.

There are a couple of places on the human body where you can stab somebody and get an immediate, profound stopping effect. They are really hard to hit in a stand-up fight. There are no guarantees you are going to hit them. If he has his hand gripping the gun and squeezing the trigger, you have much better access and it is very easy to simply hook it, rip and cut all the flexor tendons and take his hand out of the fight. If he can't squeeze the trigger, he is no longer shooting the weapon unless he can switch it to the other hand, and you are already on top of that with the rest of your technique.

eJournal: This dovetails with the interview you gave us in early 2013, which readers can review at http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org/images/stories/Network_2013-03.pdf. Is there more detailed instruction on this in the Martial Blade Concepts Distance Learning Program (<http://www.martialbladeconcepts.com/training/mbc-distance-learning-program/>)?

Janich: Yes, the Distance Learning Program includes specific instruction about using a knife against an active shooter. That instruction has been very well received, especially by people in areas where carrying a firearm is not an option—like France.

I have been teaching in Paris for the past three years. Fred Perrin, a good friend of mine, a great martial artist, a custom knife maker and a very well known combatives trainer, has been kind enough to invite me there to teach seminars for his students, typically around Thanksgiving every year. It is a huge honor for me.

A lot of repeat students come back year after year. Most come from a martial arts background. There are some who are a bit more street-savvy and a bit more self-defense oriented, but many considered the training as an expression of the martial arts; they looked at it from the technical standpoint of an enthusiast. This past year, I was there about four days after the Paris terrorist attacks. The students' attitudes were very different. In previous years, I'd show them a technique and they'd try it a couple of times, then stand around and socialize. This year, I could not get them to stop training.

I always try to meet the students' needs as best as possible, so in the latter part of the seminar, I said, "Let me know if there is anything you would like me to

address." They said, "We know you do rifle disarms; can we do that?" This is France: not a very gun-centric culture at all. Most people are not shooters and have no interest. Owning a gun is very much an exception to the rule.

We were teaching at a traditional Japanese dojo with bokken, wooden swords, on the wall, so we pulled those off the wall and had people hold them as rifles. We had people learning how to take down people with rifles, using empty hands and using knives. It was interesting to see the mindset change. It was great, because it gave them some training that was relevant to something they were afraid of at the time.

eJournal: And even for us, who are customarily armed, the important thing that we must focus on is getting that rifle shut down, because even if we shoot him, the attacker may not die immediately. He can continue pulling the trigger.

Janich: Exactly. Look at the concept of stopping power. With a firearm, you are looking at basically shutting down the entire body, so you get your center of mass hits—ideally central nervous system hits—and shut down everything. It is like going to the fuse box and hitting the circuit breaker to turn off all the lights.

Stopping power with non-firearm weapons is a very different problem. If you have a less efficient weapon—an improvised weapon—you are not going to have a weapon that is efficient enough to turn off all the lights, so you have to look at shutting down the lights in just one room. Go to the wall, turn off the light switch in just this room.

How do I keep that shooter from shooting? Well, if I have a table leg, or I went into the utility closet and I pulled out a plunger or something like that, I can take his hand off of the gun. If I break his hand so that he can't squeeze the trigger, that may be the first, best step to be able to stop him from killing people. I could hit this guy in the head repeatedly and not necessarily have the efficiency that I need to shut down the entire body, so he is still squeezing the trigger. Is the head the best target? Not necessarily, especially if you have a weapon that is not really as capable as you might like.

eJournal: Since interviewing you in 2013, I've thought of you as the Apostle of Targeting because I've never

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known anyone who teaches anatomy as integrally to physical, or non-gun, self defense as you do. I think your instruction in targeting for the immediately needed response is profound.

Janich: Well, thank you. Some years ago, the Department of Homeland Security put out a video, *Run, Hide, Fight* (see <https://vimeo.com/73940709>). When you watched the video, the Department of Homeland Security said you want to hide or run, but as a last resort, if you have to, you can fight. They then show somebody opening up a desk drawer, reaching in and grabbing a pair of scissors. The video continues happily on, but didn't actually give anything as far as, "OK, I've got a pair of scissors in my hand, now what do I do?"

This came out back when *Tactical Knives* magazine was still around and I was writing the *Street Smarts* column for every issue, so I approached them and said, "Hey, I would like to do something to address this." So we set it up to say, if you only had a pair of scissors and you had an active shooter armed with a shoulder weapon, what could you do?

We showed finding a place of hiding so you could ambush the shooter. When he goes past you, you spring out, come up from behind, grab him by the head, and pull his head back as you stomp the back of his knee. Once you bring him down to his knees, take the scissors and bury them through his eye into his brain. That's about the only way that you are going to do anything with a pair of scissors that is going to make any difference. That was the missing element in the video's "fight" part. You've got this notional way of saying, "You can fight. Here, grab a pair of scissors." What was missing was the thought process, the commitment, and the violence of action to actually do anything worthwhile with scissors.

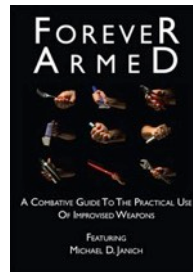
eJournal: Or to even ask, "Are the scissors even the best tool?"

Janich: Would you be better off grabbing something else? A huge part of the process is understanding what is a good improvised weapon and what is not. You have weapons of opportunity, and then you have improvised weapons that are weapons of plausible deniability.

eJournal: We are frequently told, "Be ready to use improvised weapons," but we are never taught to realistically analyze what could and could not be accomplished with one item over another, nor does that

advice ever go so far as to address what anatomical targets will yield the best outcome. You, on the other hand, once authored a video on improvised weapons, was it *Always Armed*?

Janich: It was *Forever Armed*, (<http://www.staysafemedia.com/forever-armed.html>) and basically it goes through the process of assessing objects and figuring out when you actually have a true



weapon and when you don't, as well as looking at how well you can wield the object based on its physical characteristics. Is it something you can hold as a fist load—that you can put in your fist to hit harder than you can with flesh and bone alone? Is it something that you can wield like a stick or a hammer? Is it something that is so big

that you have to wield it with two hands? Is it a flexible object or is it a projectile? Can you wield it quickly enough? If you had that opportunity, hiding behind something when the active shooter goes by, can you, in a matter of two to three seconds, spring up and take decisive action?

One of the critics of the knife scenario that we did on *The Best Defense*, said, "Well, if an active shooter is coming through I would just hit him with a chair." Cool! What do we have here right now that we could hit somebody with? [gestures to several small sofas, a low, knee-height table that's about four feet long, a flat screen TV mounted on an adjacent wall.]

The bigger the object, the harder it is to wield and the easier it is for the shooter to defend against it, either by getting out of the way or blocking it entirely. I would much rather have a knife like I carry on my body all the time. I know its capabilities. I train with it on a regular basis.

If you can't carry a purpose-designed weapon, you need to think, "What can I carry that I can train with, use effectively as a weapon, and have with me all the time?" Maybe you have a flashlight. We worked with that several seasons ago on *The Best Defense*, in a scenario based on the theater shooting in Aurora, Colorado. We gave a lot of thought to it. Being from Colorado, it was something that was near and dear to our hearts and we didn't want to be disrespectful, but at the same time we wanted to give people the best options they could have.

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Think about a situation like that: everybody's vision is dark-adapted. Pull out a tactical flashlight—200 lumens or better—and shine that in a shooter's eyes. Now you've got something that you can carry with you all of the time that has great utility, makes a great impact weapon, and allows you to affect somebody at a distance.

Like a dry chemical fire extinguisher, which essentially is an improvised pepper spray, the flashlight is the same thing in a dark-adapted environment. The more ambient light, the less effective it is going to be, but still, if you have a bright flashlight to hit somebody in the eyes from a distance, you might buy a moment to take other decisive action. During that moment, somebody else might intervene or perhaps it lets you slip out the door and get away. If you have to use it as an impact weapon, you have something with which you can hit harder than you can with your hand alone.

eJournal: I like flashlights because you're rarely challenged about why you carry it with you.

Janich: You may also travel, and that becomes an issue in and of itself. How do I change gears when I get on a plane? It's always a sad moment as I wave goodbye to my checked baggage as my knives go away.

eJournal: Good example! Airports are another totally no-gun environment most of us end up in periodically. What do you do?

Janich: You become even more vigilant. OK, I've gone through security and my options are now more limited, so I really start taking stock of what's in my environment. I'm thinking, great, there is a ketchup bottle, it is glass, I could hit with that. I've got that [pointing at various objects on the table], I've got that, I've got that. You make it a game.

I also need to be sure that I change gears. I always carry a knife in this pocket [right front pants pocket]. After going through security, what goes there? Well, the Tuff-Writer tactical pen moves to that pocket. I've always got a flashlight in the other pocket [the tool pocket of carpenter jeans], so I've got an impact weapon. For the tactical pen, the draw stroke that I would normally have

for my knife now feeds the tactical pen in an underhand grip, while the flashlight still comes out in a reverse grip. All of my empty hand skills to "earn" my draw have lots of common ground—lots of commonality of technique—so I would still use those to bridge to a weapon if I couldn't have it in hand in advance.

In everything we do, we try to have as much common ground as possible. Knife training, empty hand training, and stick training all have common ground, and much of that is based on surviving long enough to get to your weapon. For a shooter, it's the same. We look at the realities of being attacked at close range and having to get your gun into the fight.

Many shooters fall short in their skills because they assume that they are going to have the reaction time to see the problem before it happens. If someone is at arm's length and is going to stick a knife in my gut, I need to prioritize. If I think I am going to go for my gun first, I am going to get stuck. I have to focus on surviving the initial attack to be able to bring my gun into play.

That's why we try to integrate everything we do. For our training drills on core techniques, you could ask, "Is it an empty hand technique? Is it an improvised weapon technique? Is it a knife technique?" Yes, it is all three. All we do is adapt to the attributes of the weapon. Am I hitting with my fist? Am I hitting with a Tuff-Writer pen (<http://www.tuffwriter.com>)? Am I cutting or stabbing with the knife? The mechanics are the same.



Even if you do carry a firearm or purpose-designed weapon, improvised weapons still offer excellent advantages. You can walk down the street with a pen in your hand and nobody is going to say anything. Walk down the street with a 1911 in your hands, and it is going to attract lots of the wrong kind of

attention. With a pen in your hand, you are armed and have a significant head start if you are attacked. Your thought should then be, "How can I use this as a bridging weapon to get to my other weapons?"

The same applies to environmental weapons, but you must have the awareness and forethought to bring them into play. If I pick up a salt shaker because I have

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somebody trying to hit me in the head with a tire iron, I can deflect the attack, hit him with the salt shaker, and buy enough distance to draw a knife or a firearm. You must "earn" that draw by living through the initial attack long enough to bring a purpose-designed weapon into play.

Conversely, you may also flow back in the other direction. If you carry a five shot J-frame revolver you may find that you've shot five rounds and haven't solved your problem yet. Now you've got a chunk of steel in your hand that makes a great impact weapon and is probably going to have more immediate effect than trying to fumble with a speed strip to get five rounds into your revolver. If the gun did not finish the job, now you are reverting, stepping backward. It becomes an impact weapon.

eJournal: How interesting to hear that progression in reverse!

Janich: When you look at this from the firearms perspective, we often hear the analogy, "To the man or woman who has only a hammer, everything looks like a nail." That can be very limiting. However, when it comes to improvised weapons, it makes perfect sense. Look at the flip side of that mindset and say, what things do I do best? What is the best "hammer" I can have in a non-permissive environment?

For example, you might say, "If it comes down to it, I'm going to cover my head, and I'm going to kick this guy in the knee as hard as I possibly can. Or, I'm going to kick him in the shin, cripple him, and run." That's not a bad plan. Well, if I am going to be flying on an airplane and don't have all my normal toys at my disposal, I should think about ways to make that plan better. Can I kick harder with boots like these [gestures toward ankle-high lace up boots] than I can with tennis shoes? Yep. Well, my boots just became an improvised weapon.

eJournal: So you're not going to wear flip-flops because they won't support a hard kick.

Janich: Right! And if you have to run, flip-flops aren't a great choice, either. If you wear ankle-high shoes, you're not going to step on your own shoe and have it come off either. If your shoe is laced up around your ankle, it is going to stay on your foot.

Basically, try to game the system as much as you can and focus on the things you do best. Ask yourself, "What techniques am I really good at? What do I have confidence in? How can I make the best use of those?" If you say, "You know what? I can punch really hard." OK, great. But unless you've actually toughened your knuckles and trained to punch without any kind of support, you can break your hand. The last thing you want to do is break your hand, then try to access a weapon. So instead you need to ask yourself, "What can I do to make my punches better?"

You can get on an airplane with a carabineer; I've done it many times. Take that carabineer and put it in your palm, with the other portion sticking out so that the long portion is in line with your forearm. With it braced against your palm, you now have great improvised brass knuckles. Now you can punch like crazy, hit really hard, and cause real damage without hurting your own hand.

Figure out what are your go-to things, what do you really have confidence in, and then structure your approach to self defense around those things. That gives you confidence in what you do. You don't want to be a one-trick pony, but at the same time, you don't want to have to learn a thousand different techniques. I want to be really good at something that becomes a go-to technique that I have confidence in that I can amplify if possible. If I kick really well, let me put on some kick-ass shoes that are going to amplify the effects of what I do.

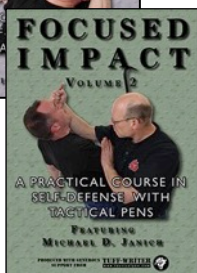
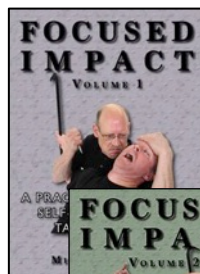
eJournal: This is a valuable line of thinking, because it breaks us away from excessive focus on one weapon, which for most of us is going to be an everyday carry gun. It opens up our defensive capabilities, not only into what around us that can be improvised, but more importantly, what we can carry along, even in restricted areas, that we have trained up on and know how to use in self defense.

Thank you so much for all this great instruction! How can we learn more?

Janich: If you like the logic of what we discussed here, I strongly recommend you take a look at my instructional videos on improvised weapons. *Forever Armed* (<http://www.staysafemedia.com/forever-armed.html>) is an overview of all types of improvised weapons, their advantages and disadvantages, and some simple tactics

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for using them effectively. If you like the idea of staying constantly armed with a tactical pen or a flashlight, I recommend my *Focused Impact* series



(<http://www.staysafemedia.com/focused-impact-volume-1.html> and <http://www.staysafemedia.com/focused-impact-volume-2.html>).

It's a two-volume series that presents step-by-step instruction in a simple, but extremely versatile, system of self defense based around the use of tactical pens; however, the same skills easily translate to flashlights, Kubotans, and similar objects.

If you're really serious, my Distance Learning Program, or DLP, is the ultimate training resource for my approach to self defense. It is an online program that currently includes more than 20 hours of step-by-step instructional videos on all aspects of personal defense.

We shoot these up close and with extreme detail, so each video is the next-best thing to private training with me. The DLP is available as an annual subscription (<https://shop.platformpurple.com/product/?shop=1909&product=27943>) with lots of extra benefits or as a monthly subscription (<https://shop.platformpurple.com/product/?shop=1909&product=40763>). Both subscriptions allow you access to my closed Internet forum and allow subscribers to request the production of videos on specific topics. In that way, it's always evolving and very interactive. On average, we add about 60-90 minutes of new content every month.

And, of course, keep watching *The Best Defense* on Outdoor Channel.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to share my thoughts with the ACLDN community!

Michael Janich has been studying and teaching self-defense and the martial arts for more than 35 years. He has earned instructor's credentials in an array of styles, and is also one of the foremost modern authorities on handgun point shooting, being one of the few contemporary instructors to have been personally trained by the late close-combat legend Colonel Rex Applegate.



Janich served nine years in the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command, including a three-year tour at the National Security Agency. In addition to authoring six books and coauthoring seven books and more than 20 videos, Janich has been published in more than a dozen magazines and newsletters.

Michael, through his company Martial Blade Concepts, holds seminars across the country. To learn more about these seminars, please consult his website, <http://www.martialbladeconcepts.com/training/michael-janich-seminar-schedule>. Of course, Marty and Gila would love to spend the weekend with you at the Firearms Academy of Seattle, Inc. when we host Michael's 2-day training course the second weekend in June. Read more at <http://firearmsacademy.com/guest-instructors/112-martial-blade-concepts-critical-skills-of-self-defense-with-knives>.

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President's Message

by Marty Hayes, J.D.

The other day, we received an email from a member who had contacted an attorney on our Network Affiliated Attorney list. The member wanted to do as we recommend, that being to meet the

attorney, chat for a few minutes and have the attorney agree to be available in the event of the member using force in self defense. That is all well and good. But according to our member, the Network Affiliated Attorney's staff told him that the attorney had a program through which the individual puts the attorney "on retainer" for \$350 a year! The attorney has a website dedicated to this, so we know this wasn't some sort of miscommunication between the member and the law firm staff.

We told the member he should look for another attorney to meet, as paying a yearly fee to the attorney is not what the Network Affiliated Attorney list is all about. We have since disaffiliated with that attorney, and removed him from our list.

It's not the first time this has come up. Over the past several years, we have had attorneys who, after they were part of the Network for a time, started their own "legal aftermath" service, usually in the form of a pre-paid legal scheme. When we discovered this, we disaffiliated with those attorneys, too. It would be nice if an attorney who decides to do this sort of thing, would let us know what they are doing and voluntarily leave the Network, instead of attempting to sell their program to the Network members who learn about the law firm through us. But I suppose that consideration is too much to ask for.

When we accept an attorney into the Network, we spell out for them what the working relationship is to

look like. We ask that the attorney be available to meet with our members ahead of time (whether or not that attorney wants to charge for that meeting is up to their firm) and then after that meeting, the attorney is free to choose to be available to a member after a self-defense incident, and the member is free to choose to have that attorney's phone number in his or her wallet for use if needed. If you, as a member of the Network run into something other than this when contacting a Network Affiliated Attorney, then please let us know. And attorneys, if you want to start your own "legal aftermath" service, please let us know and we can part as friends.

Another Rangemaster Tactical Conference is History

Each year Network Advisory Board Member Tom Givens and his wife Lynn host many of the nation's top firearms trainers, who volunteer their time to teach another 150-200 people over the course of three days. Held at the Memphis Police Academy for the last several years (it has moved around from time to time), the Tactical Conference is truly a world-class training event.

In fact, it was at the 2008 Tactical Conference that I first introduced the concept of the Network to the instructors and students in attendance. Many of those attendees signed up for the Network and are still members today. On this trip I discovered that there were MANY, MANY more Network members in attendance than in years

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past. It was pretty cool to have people come up to me and want to introduce themselves to me, saying they were Network members who wanted to thank me for what I started.

Of the 200 attendees this year, I would estimate that half were Network members. One such introduction came from Network Affiliated Attorney George Lyon, Jr. from Arlington, VA. He practices firearms law in Virginia and Washington, DC. His website is www.arsenalattorneys.com, and here is a link to a good article on his blog, about self defense and the law. (<https://www.arsenalattorneys.com/firearms-blog/self-defense-case-study-frank-trujillo>)

The 2017 Tactical Conference is already being planned and I expect to be there again. Just one really great thing is getting to meet literally hundreds of people who share the same values, having decided to NOT be a victim of criminal attack, and if they are selected, being able to fight back and win. That alone is worth the price of admission. Gila had this month's lead article already prepared, but expect to see a lead article on the value of training and the legal aftermath in the May edition of the journal, using this conference as a backdrop for the article.

Us v. Them

As the years go by, more and more companies spring up to address the legal aftermath of a self-defense shooting. More than I can keep track of. The dozens of calls we receive each month from prospective members trying to sort out all the options in the marketplace tells me it is confusing and frustrating for the consumer, and I find it frustrating, too. I think that's why so many first-time callers seem to voice their questions in an "Us v. Them" approach, although we do our best to educate the caller about the different plans.

You will always get a human being to answer your questions when you call the Network. Even if you initially need to leave a recorded message because it is outside business hours or all lines are busy, leave a message and a human being will call you back. But one thing I want members to know: if you want to speak to the President of the Network (me), then I will either take your call or call you back as soon as I can. That I promise. There are no layers of screening you have to work through, there is just you and me. If there is anything I can ever help you with, don't hesitate to call.

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Attorney Question of the Month

For the past few months, this column has been dedicated to protecting the armed citizen's rights after self defense. This month we asked our affiliated attorneys about the next step in the timeline—

Assuming that the defender has just needed to shoot an attacker in self defense, and the attacker is alive and talking, telling his side of the story to police, what are the issues influencing whether or not the armed defender should give a statement to police in order to counter the statement being given by the wounded attacker

There were so many answers that we carried this topic over to this edition of our journal.

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For the most part, whatever the attacker is saying should be irrelevant to the defender's actions. The case should not be tried at the scene. Many people are in jail who tried to talk themselves out of trouble with police, although of course most of them were truly guilty.

In any case, the defender will likely not be in an emotional state to allow him or her to make a counterargument. Refusing to say anything is not a good choice because the Supreme Court ruled in 2013 that silence can be used against a defendant who has not been read his Miranda rights and is not in police custody. The defender should state some basics to the responding officers, such as:

1. That man attacked me with a gun/knife/club;
2. He had an accomplice (if applicable) (and give a brief description) who ran in that direction;
3. I thought he was going to kill me/I was in fear for my life (words to that effect);
4. There is his weapon/shell casings/other evidence;
5. That person(s) saw the incident;
6. I am injured/short of breath/having pain in my chest and left arm and need medical attention (if applicable, and remember that a stress-induced heart attack is possible hours after the incident, especially for an

older defender, and spending the night in a hospital is better than spending it in a holding cell);

7. I am too upset to talk more now. I want to cooperate fully and I will be happy to give a statement after I have had a chance to calm down and speak with my attorney. Until then, I invoke my right to have my attorney present during questioning and I invoke my right to remain silent.

THEN ACTUALLY REMAIN SILENT. In no case should the defender say anything to investigating officers (detectives) without counsel present. They are trained interrogators who can get the defender to say things he or she never intended if the defender enters into a dialogue with them.

The defender should not allow the responding officers to interrupt him and ask clarifying questions during his brief statement. This will lead to a dialogue that cannot help the defender. The defender may say, "Please let me finish" and simply give the brief details without expending or expounding.

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This is a real conundrum and cannot be answered by applying a simple hard and fast rule.

Police officers will generally make a decision to arrest or not within a short time after their arrival. If the person who was shot is a known criminal with a long arrest and conviction history, their decision will be easier to make. If the person who was shot had a weapon, that will make their decision easier as well. In those instances, a simple, "He attacked me or was attempting to rob me" should suffice until your lawyer arrives.

However, if the person who was shot is a decent, upstanding citizen and the shooting was the result of a dispute over a parking space or followed an incident of road rage, the standard rules of waiting to speak with your attorney prior to giving any statement would apply.

[Continued next page...]

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There is any number of issues that could impact such a dangerous decision. First and foremost, is the defender's attorney present and, following an assessment of the defender, has the attorney given the green light to say anything to the police other than, "I will not give a statement, or answer any questions until my attorney is present?"

If the attorney is not present, then I will say no to the idea of getting involved in some free form, "he said, he said" dialogue. Cops don't get to make charging decisions; I've said it many times before. There will be time to make an accurate statement, with counsel present. Minutes after the incident goes down, while the potentially perception and memory distorting effects of adrenaline are still present, is not that time. Your statements, answers and descriptions of events might be horribly inaccurate, and you won't know it until it is too late. The, "But the cops will think I'm guilty of something" argument holds no water with attorneys, because we know that no one cares what the first responder cops think.

This isn't easy. Nobody said it was going to be.

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It is a mistake to try to plead your case to the police. After just shooting someone, you will be pumped full of adrenaline and somewhat emotional. It is not the time for rational discussion of the events. The police are not there to judge you, and they are not the ones that ultimately will judge you.

If you make no statements at all, the police cannot testify at your trial about what you said (or didn't say). If you make a statement, you are beholden to the police to remember correctly what you said (and maybe you'd rather they got it wrong). If you do make a statement and they misquote you, there's nothing you can do about it.

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I'm having a hard time imagining any situation where the defender/victim should say anything other than the following:

1. That's the guy [pointing to the attacker].
2. He broke into my [car/home/office/ etc.].
3. He attacked me.
4. There's his weapon [pointing to the attackers gun/knife/club/etc.].
5. I'm: a) injured [display injury], or b) not injured.
6. I intend to fully cooperate.
7. I am [defender identifies self and provides ID].
8. I will give you a full statement once my attorney is present to advise me.

Repeat as often as necessary and say nothing else. Legal counsel can then determine what, when, and how much to disclose.

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Although there is certainly a benefit to being able to control the police's first impression, the risk of providing a full statement to police before speaking to your attorney outweighs that benefit. Whether or not the attacker is making a statement, an armed defender should identify himself as the victim and identify the attacker as such as well as telling the police about any ongoing safety concerns and identifying potential evidence. This does not include "what happened" before the shooting. Because of the phenomenon commonly known as "critical incident amnesia," it takes a full 24-48 hours and one or two sleep cycles to fully develop and create what will become the armed defender's long term memory of a critical incident.

Providing a statement about "what happened" before that process has begun, in the immediate aftermath of a life or death situation, guarantees that the armed defender's statements will contain unavoidable

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discrepancies or misperceptions. Regardless of whether the other guy talks first, I always recommend a full debriefing and consultation with counsel before an armed defender gives a full statement to the police. Such a statement must be recorded and given when counsel is present and able to advise the armed defender. The fact that the attacker talks first will actually make it more likely for the attacker's statement to be inaccurate or inconsistent while the armed defender will have the opportunity to give one, carefully considered, statement to the police.

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I advise my clients to keep any of those responses short and simple as in, "I feared for my life because of ___ and was forced to defend myself/others, etc." The more fact and situational specific issues should not be told to law enforcement until the individual has an opportunity to speak with a lawyer, calm down, and make sure their statements are true and accurate to the best of their ability.

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The wisdom of comedian Ron White comes to mind immediately. "When the police arrived, apparently, I had the right to remain silent—but I didn't have the ability." Ron's story begins when he was just thrown out of a bar, and the cops arrive. He wasn't able to help himself by talking.

There is almost no reason to "blab" to the police. If you have done your due diligence in use of cellphone to 9-1-1, they will already have your side of the story. Also the bad guy will be making up things very quickly. He may say things inconsistent with the 9-1-1 recording, the physical evidence (footprints, shell cases, blood spatter) and the eyewitnesses. Do you REALLY want to clue the bad guy in that what he's saying is inconsistent with the facts?

I would just keep it to: "Gentlemen, I hope you are

recording ALL of this. I will be giving you my full cooperation just as soon as I speak with my attorney. Thank you for responding so quickly."

If the fellow is wounded and talking, he will talk with even less inhibition in the ambulance once he is administered morphine. While this may be inadmissible against bad guy in the criminal case, it may exonerate you in the civil case.

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A real world definition of "victim" is the first person to call 9-1-1. Given the propensity of the police to believe the first story that they are told, I believe that it is best for the defending citizen to make the 9-1-1 call. In that call, although it is extremely difficult to cut off the questioning and discussion with the operator, the citizen should very briefly explain what caused him/her to use deadly force. After a short description of the reason for the use of force, shut up regarding the facts and if possible hang up and contact their lawyer. While awaiting the arrival of the police, the citizen defender should use their cell phone camera, to video or photograph everything possible of the scene, including the bad guy's weapon, shell casings, bullet holes, and witnesses. This will preserve evidence that may be taken by bystanders or lost in the commotion of the arrival of police and ambulance people.

The citizen can expect to be cuffed and stuffed and then ignored by the police while the bad guy creates his fictional story of the events. Due to his being shot, he will have more access to the police early on. The early call to the attorney, who responds to the scene, can allow the attorney to provide information to the police to aid in establishing the chain of events from the evidence, while not requiring the citizen to be interrogated by the police before he/she can get their breath and collect their thoughts.

The foregoing presupposes that the defending citizen has been trained in the shooting aftermath. It is always dangerous to encourage or allow a person who has just been through a traumatic event to talk about it.

From the assumed facts in the question, what are the issues influencing whether or not the armed defender

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should give a statement to police in order to “counter the statement being given by the wounded attacker?” Not an exhaustive list, but interviews with the client should be extremely limited with the attorney providing the information to the investigators to the extent possible.

1. Availability of counsel to be present to talk to the defender;
2. The amount of confusion regarding the facts and circumstances of the incident; may include cross racial shooting, hostiles at scene;
3. Number of persons involved on both sides, spouse of citizen defender vs. friends of the bad guy;
4. Number of witnesses, biased and non-involved;
5. Availability of physical evidence at the scene to corroborate citizen defender's account of events;
6. How distraught the citizen defender is;
7. How cogent the facts related by the citizen defender to the attorney – I don't know it happened so fast ... inability to relate anything but “I shot the guy;”
8. Relationship of the attorney with the police officers or agency;
9. Perceived bias of investigating officers at the scene;
10. Presence of media and if they are being allowed access to the investigation or citizen defender;
11. Bias of media in the community and their history of twisting information to create sensationalism of the events.

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The issues influencing whether to speak to police are the same regardless of whether the attacker has or has not been shot by the armed citizen. The attacker is going to lie to police about everything, and will claim that he is the real victim. So the citizen has to decide if he wants to try and avoid arrest by giving his full version, or, does he want to protect his legal position as much as possible by stating merely that he defended himself from attack, and then keep asking to speak to his attorney. And for the same reasons as last month, I advise the latter.

One should say only that they defended themselves from attack, and then ask for their attorney. An arrest

today is far better than facing a needless conviction tomorrow due to inept handling of questions from police. Almost no one, including attorneys, can competently navigate such an emotionally-charged question/answer session after a life-threatening event. As example, some years back I witnessed a shooting, and when I was interviewed by police minutes later I could not remember my own phone number.

Severe emotional shock and legal analysis skills, don't go together. And the police know that very, very well. That's why many police unions have contracts that allow officers involved in shootings a 24-hour period before they are questioned by authorities. The ordinary citizen gets no such privilege. They have to create it for themselves, by not talking.

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They should always invoke their right to remain silent. Always.

They can always give a statement later, after they have retained counsel, and after they have a chance to get the discovery. What they say could be disastrous.

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This one is super easy and I'm sure I won't be the first to say it. Do not even think about this issue and whether to give a statement to police if you shoot someone. First call 9-1-1, then call a lawyer.

As the shooter you will be in shock. You may not know it or realize it, but you will. Talk to a lawyer first before giving any statement to police. He or she will be able to decide better than the shooter as to what a statement should say or whether it should be given at all. A good lawyer will come out to the scene immediately. The last time I got a call from a client about a home shooting I was on scene within the hour. The police will wait.

[Continued next page...]

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Certainly if the shooting happens in his home and the attacker is a stranger, he should be most cooperative and give a statement because if arrested, and the case went to trial and the jury was instructed not to hold the defendant's silence against him, the fact is that they will hold it against him, especially under those circumstances.

However, if say, the shooting happened in a bar or outside, with no independent witnesses he should make a minimal statement, but clam up if it seems the police are going to arrest him. In that situation it could well be one person's word against another's. In the former situation there is at least a chance they won't arrest the defender if he comes clean.

This of course assumes that one lives in a rational jurisdiction that respects gun ownership and self defense, and isn't afflicted with mindless hysteria about the race or age of the victim, regardless of the facts. Unfortunately this is an assumption that can't be taken for granted.

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If someone in the process of committing a crime has just been injured severely enough by the intended victim to be taken into custody alive, I'm going to make the reasonable assumption (I know...but we all have to base our behavior on the information we have because we seldom have all the information we want...therefore, assumptions...) they probably aren't running at 100% mental capacity and will make mistakes which will benefit the good guy.

My default position on making statements in the immediate aftermath of a situation is "STFU." (That does not stand for "Special Task Force Unicorn." If you don't, you should read the *Monster Hunter International* series by Larry Correia, he is a pro RKBA author, so support him...)

Someone who makes a statement to the police voluntarily, without the advice and assistance of counsel, in the aftermath of a situation in which they are likely not at 100% mental capability and in the absence of knowledge of what the criminal has stated about the situation does so at their own risk.

The default of STFU is only departed from in situations in which a departure from it will be of benefit to the person making the statement. The immediate aftermath of a situation will be confusion, emotion, delayed assessment of injuries, stress and unfamiliar situations.

I do not feel an adequate cost/benefit analysis can be made in the situation presented; therefore, STFU and let the criminal speak as much as they want to.

You can present a statement at a later time with the advice and assistance of counsel.

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The only way the attacker is giving his side of the story and telling the police after he's been shot is that the defender called 9-1-1 and during that call he should have simply stated that he has just been attacked but that he shot the attacker and that police and medical personnel are needed to respond.

Upon arrival of emergency services the defender should simply point out the injured attacker and give a general description of the events. Nothing else should be stated without first having an attorney present. If the attacker wasn't shot and only held at bay while 9-1-1 was called then again, take the initiative, say I was just attacked and have defended myself and have the attacker in custody, please send police. Keep the gun on the attacker until the police arrive and secure the scene. Let them see you keeping the attacker under guard. In that scenario again give only general and brief statement as to what happened and if further questioning is necessary, contact your attorney.

A big "Thank you!" to all of the Network Affiliated Attorneys who responded to this question. Please return next month for discussion of a new facet of this topic.

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CD Lecture Review

Serious Mistakes Gunowners Make Real Life Examples of How They Get Into Trouble and How to Prevent It

An audio lecture by Claude Werner
\$19.95, 1 hour, 14 minutes

https://www.freewebstore.org/Personal-Safety-Training/Gunowner_Mistakes_Audio/p1933952_15296641.aspx



Reviewed by Gila Hayes

I regularly study Affiliated Instructor Claude Werner's blog, so when he releases an audio or video lecture, I snap it right up. This audio presentation grew out of a popular lecture Werner gave at the 2015 Rangemaster Tactical Conference and is the subject of many of his blog posts at <http://www.tacticalprofessor.com>.

Werner identifies 11 types of mistakes gun owners make all too regularly. This lecture speaks to serious errors like shooting yourself or the wrong person, being shot by police, being needlessly arrested even though your actions were justifiable or leaving guns where children get them, to name only a few. I liked the real-life examples included in each chapter, since it's so much better to learn from the mistakes of others.

Werner starts with an incident in which a man asked a woman in a parking lot for a light for his cigarette, frightening her badly. She brandished her revolver and was arrested because parking lot surveillance showed the man was not behaving aggressively, nor was he closer than ten feet. Had a real threat been made, self defense might be offered as a legal defense against charges of brandishing and aggravated assault with a firearm, he notes, but adds that being startled is not enough to merit pointing a firearm.

Avoid being startled by keeping your head up and developing the habit of looking around frequently. In addition, practice forcefully saying, "No!" he continues, because he believes the woman in this example should have simply held up her hand and said, "No!" to the approaching man.

Next Werner raises a topic Marc MacYoung has also addressed with us (<http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org/defending-self-defense-knife-use>), so I was interested to hear Claude's viewpoint on what both have identified instinctually chasing an attacker who is withdrawing.

Werner tells the story of a 2012 home invasion in which the resident was beaten, but shot his attackers. As they fled, he continued to shoot from inside his apartment and his spray of bullets hit a parked car and a nearby structure.

A western states robbery victim was also punished for his part in a fight that started when two men robbed him, then shot at him as he pursued in his car. Some time later, a resident of a nearby dwelling sought medical care for a grazing gunshot wound to his head, attributed to a stray bullet from the incident. The robbery victim justified his actions, saying he had to contain the threat because the departing assailants might return, an argument a trial court and an appeals court "found unpersuasive," Werner relates.

Avoid the primitive chase instinct by programming positive responses by focusing on the goal of personal safety, not the problem of the assault, Werner lectures. Concentrate on better responses, he urges. For example, call 9-1-1 as soon as practical instead of giving chase.

Werner next discusses hitting an uninvolved person with shots intended for an attacker. While his primary examples entail shotgun use, he stresses the necessity of knowing your capability with any gun you may use. In densely populated places, you may need to close the distance to guarantee hits, he teaches. Don't expect to face off with an assailant like two gunfighters on an empty Main Street in a western movie, he quips, adding, "We have to be able to direct our gun fire accurately at the criminal without hitting innocent people who may be downrange." Additional concerns include over-penetration, and Werner goes on to address sensible ammunition selection and altering firing positions to keep innocents out of the line of fire.

Werner next discusses intervening to stop crimes involving strangers. Unless personally targeted, it is very difficult to know all the facts, he stresses. In court, a woman who fired at escaping shoplifters explained that she had to make a split-second decision. Choosing when and how to intervene should be determined well in advance, Werner counters. Even police discourage off-duty officer intervention in crime when human life is not at risk, he notes.

Lost and stolen guns have caused all too many problems, continues the next chapter. This often starts

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by removing but then forgetting a gun in a public restroom or leaving a gun left unsecured in a vehicle when entering a no-gun zone. Plan and provide in advance for gun security, he urges, recommending lock boxes in cars, and devising ways to use public restrooms without setting your gun down off-body.

Tragedies from mistaking an innocent person for a home invader or other threat fuel a long recitation of news reports. Common causes include darkness and not being ready with a flashlight, failing to challenge the suspect verbally, and assuming that a noise or unidentified movement is an intruder when, Werner estimates, 97% of the time it is actually someone who shares the home.

Learn to manipulate a flashlight while holding a handgun, and don't pick up a gun at night without a flashlight, Werner urges. This is harder with long guns, because it is nearly impossible to use a flashlight that is not weapon mounted, but Werner stresses that you cannot search safely with a weapon mounted light because the muzzle points at the person you locate – who may belong in the home just as much as you do.

"Gun handling is just as important as marksmanship, probably more so," Werner states, introducing a chapter on negligent discharges. Sometimes property is damaged, other times people harm themselves or others. He cites injuries that occurred when entering or leaving an area where loaded guns are prohibited, as well as holstering mishaps. Scrupulous attention to keeping fingers away from the trigger and trigger guard, safe, high-quality holsters, and muzzle discipline are significant protections against injury, death, or material loss from a negligent discharge.

I wonder how Werner selected the examples for the "Poor Judgment" chapter because there are so many candidates. He cites a police training officer who put his gun to a recruit trainee's head and pulled the trigger, another death occurred when a child attending church was hit by a falling bullet that had been discharged at a nearby holiday bash, and a woman was arrested for attempted first degree murder after she discharged her handgun inside her home during an argument about her husband not doing his share of the chores.

Meriting its own chapter, failing to secure weapons is one of our biggest problems. Children can and "frequently do" prove capable of pulling stiff, double action triggers and overcoming inadequate security

provisions, Werner asserts. These tragedies have occurred in the home, in automobiles, in motels and in stores. Deaths all too often result and if the gun owner survives, he or she can face child abuse charges, felony culpable negligence, manslaughter or endangering a child. Never put a gun in the car's glove box, center console or door pocket, Werner teaches. A gun in the car needs to be on the owner's body. If it is uncomfortable, get a different gun or holster, he urges. Purse carry requires the purse kept on the body at all times, he adds.

Unintentional violation of a gun law is a common risk for travelers, Werner next continues, citing the PA mom who told a NJ police officer that she was carrying her gun in accordance with her PA permit, only to learn it is not valid in NJ. Although eventually pardoned, she was held in jail for 40 days. Werner adds that this incident brought hundreds of similar situations to light. You must have a "very clear understanding" of gun possession and self-defense law when you travel, he stresses.

The complex topic of use of deadly force is beyond the scope of this audio lecture, Werner explains in the final chapter. However, the news is full of reports of gun owners jailed after acting foolishly or maliciously. Shooting through doors, luring thieves into an ambush, leaving and returning with a gun to settle an argument are examples. Unjustifiable shootings result in murder and manslaughter convictions that earn long prison sentences, he relates. Know the law of self defense and support reasonable decisions by learning fear control methods, avoiding alcohol when using firearms, and employing alternative defenses like pepper spray for times when deadly force is not justifiable, he urges.

Here the audio lecture ends. Although there is no summary chapter, each chapter stands powerfully on its own. This is a lecture every gun club should integrate into meetings; it would also serve as excellent home work for concealed carry classes, and Network members should listen and recognize risks that have sneaked into our behavior, as well as having examples ready to drive home gun safety lessons when addressing fellow armed citizens who are behave irresponsibly.

*[End of article.
Please enjoy the next article.]*



News from Our Affiliates

Compiled by Gila Hayes

In Iowa, Network Affiliated Instructor Darin Van Ryswyk keeps busy teaching CCW permit training courses, but he also works hard to take his students beyond that minimum training requirement. One of his programs, *Principles of Armed Self-Defense*, caught my eye, because instead of being hyper focused on gun skills, it addresses a strong fighting stance, foot work for creating distance and angles, as well as weapon retention. See <http://cwf firearmstraining.com>. Kudos to Darin and his staff for providing solid self defense training for folks in the Ames, IA area.

Long-time Network Affiliated Instructor Steve Eichelberger of Bend, OR was the subject of a complimentary and informative feature article written by southern Oregon's prominent outdoor writer Gary Lewis. Read it all at <http://www.bendbulletin.com/outdoors/3980794-151/handgun-safety-and-responsibility-starts-with-training> and if you're ready for a handgunning fundamentals tune-up, give Steve a call.

In Wisconsin, Fred Yulga and Jim Burgess have built a cadre of a half dozen enthusiastic firearms instructors at Armed Citizens Network of Wisconsin (ACNOW) to teach the WI concealed carry license class and the Utah concealed firearm permit course. They're available to go to the students' locations to make it easy for the learners. It's obviously a recipe for success, because their website shows programs—many times more than one—going every weekend.

Fred recently send me a thank you note for a fresh supply of our Foundation's educational booklet *What Every Gun Owner Needs to Know About Self-Defense Law* to give each student that takes an ACNOW class. He also takes the Network's materials along with him when he works a gun show. If you're in WI and haven't met Fred or Jim, or the rest of the crew, Jeff, Gabe or Tony, don't wait any longer. They're good guys! Their course completion certificate is also accepted as the training requirement for the FL concealed carry license, which also offers broad reciprocity. See their schedule at <http://www.acnow.us> and make plans to get to know one of them.

Michelle Quesada, one of our IL Affiliated Instructors, got in touch with me and let me know that in addition to her classes at Triton College in River Grove, IL, she keeps very busy teaching gun safety and marksmanship at the College of DuPage, Homeland Security Training Institute, which offers a very full curriculum for private armed citizens. Scheduled programs include a number of NRA classes, plus seminars with interesting names like *Concealed Carry With Confidence*, *Physical Security and Asset Protection*, *Soft Target Hardening*, *Senior Citizen Crime Prevention*, *Shooter Decision Making and the Law*, to name just a few. Program announcements are also made on the HSTI Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/hsti425/>.

According to her bio on the College of DuPage faculty page, Michelle is the head firearms instructor for the college's concealed carry program. Her focus is in precision pistol and defensive handgun shooting as well as the development of junior pistol athletes and female shooters, the college website explains.

Jon Thompson, our affiliate in Elk River, MN runs a gun shop and teaches gun safety classes, too. In addition, he is a strong pro-gun voice at a number of community events, which in the past have included open houses at the Harley Davidson dealership, and every year, he has a booth at the Game Fair in Minnesota. Jon's getting ready for Game Fair early this year, since he's already ordered his supply of our educational foundation's booklets for this August event (see <http://www.gamefair.com>).

When he's not busy running his gun shop, Jon also teaches gun safety and shooting skill development, a venture in which he partners with another Network affiliate, Bob Jahn. Jon also enjoys competing in the International Defensive Pistol Association and keeps current by taking training from high-level trainers including John Farnam and Mike Seeklander, to name only a few. All this to say, Riverside Sporting Gear is run by one of our own, so give their website a gander at <http://riversidesportinggear.com/index.php>.

Affiliates please send me an email to ghayes@armedcitizensnetwork.org if you have any special events like open houses, seminars, classes or other interesting tidbits that we can announce in this column. If announcing an event, about 60 days advance notice is best since we publish only once a month.

*[End of article.
Please enjoy the next article.]*

April 2016



Editor's Notebook

by Gila Hayes

I've enjoyed many educational opportunities lately, and our journal's lead articles continue to reflect the knowledgeable people with whom I've been privileged to speak. Next month, we'll have a good discussion

about getting the most out of training courses when we interview Mike Seeklander. Mike is one of the training gurus responsible for the content on *The Best Defense* TV, champion competitive shooter, and popular firearms instructor with whom the Network is proud to be affiliated.

With Mike's new American Warrior Society website (<http://www.americanwarriorsociety.com>) set up for 72-hour introductory membership access, you don't have to wait for his interview in our journal next month, you can go online to start learning from him right away. Members, if you like what you see during your introductory membership, log in to our *Discounts/Coupons* webpage at <http://www.armedcitizensnetwork.org/coupons> for a 10% off discount code and save on AWS membership.

We have a great reciprocal relationship going with Mike. In return for the discount he gives Network members, he advises American Warrior Society members to join the Network using a coupon for a discount on our first year membership. It brings members to the Network that are passionate about their training and preparation so it's a great win-win for all involved!

Testing, Testing...

I got involved in an email exchange a few days ago that put a slightly different spin on the concern Marty expressed in this month's *President's Message* over how often potential members want us to measure Network membership benefits against our competitors.

A volley of emails with a non-member recently began with a simple question about membership benefits applicability to non-gun defenses, then asked how Network services compare with those of a prominent prepaid legal provider, and wrapped up with the very direct question of why Network membership dues are lower than the competitor's fees. In response, I stressed how our benefits work to protect members, after outright

telling my correspondent that I would not sell Network membership benefits by denigrating a competitor.

His closing email said: *"This is exactly the response I was hoping for from a company I am thinking about doing business with...I apologize for the question but, as I have done with the others, I wanted to see what the response would be. I was not very pleased with some of the responses I have gotten and have told them so. You have definitely got me as a soon-to-be customer. This kind of customer service is lost these days."*

Our Generous Members

Thank you, members, for the many generous gifts this past month that swelled the Network's Legal Defense Fund. In March, members and corporate sponsors increased the Fund by more than \$1,450 over and above the membership dues percent deposited in the Fund for use when a member has a self-defense incident. Each \$15 or \$25 Fund contribution made at <http://armedcitizensnetwork.org/contribute> adds up to make a huge difference for the individual member receiving an attorney's assistance after self defense.

I am always touched when a new member adds a Fund donation to their membership dues. After I sent a thank you note to one gentleman, I got the following response: *"You are very welcome, and thanks to you and the other officers of the Network for providing this service."*

"Even if I did not have a firearm and were never going to need your service, I would support the Network. That's because our survival as a democracy relies not only on the democratic voting process but on the First Amendment to the Constitution guaranteeing freedom of speech and press. And the Second Amendment guaranteeing the right to bear arms is what backs up the First Amendment. But if citizens are afraid to bear arms because of potential legal consequences then that Second Amendment is undermined."

He added a few other lines in response to my thank you note, but you get the idea. This member came to us because another Network member cared enough to share one of the Network member education DVDs with a few of his shooting buddies. Both men illustrate the quality of members joining the Network. We are truly fortunate to serve such good folks!

*[End of April 2016 eJournal.
Please return for our May 2016 edition.]*

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About the Network's Online Journal

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