

NATURAL RIGHT

FIREARMS

NEWSLETTER

HUNTING SEASON

Any day now I expect to wake up, walk outside and smell that distinct aroma of fall. I love feeling fresh cool air when fall comes. With fall comes hunting season. Yeah, everybody is trying to get their food plots planted, they want to get their hunting spaces picked out their deer blinds staked out and get ready to bag that trophy buck. While there's several different wild game to hunt most people tend to go after the white-tailed deer in the area of the country where I live. Some people like to go squirrel hunting some people like to go rabbit hunting some people wait around for Turkey season in the spring but most everyone in this area goes after the white-tailed deer.

I've never been a big hunter. I've seen the population in this area grow so much that it's hard to have enough property to hunt and stay on your own property or your own lease. Also, with all the population increase hunter safety is paramount. It is even more important now than ever to teach hunter safety.

2024 / October Issue

BALISTICS

The term Ballistics comes from the Greek word “ballein” which means to throw. It was adopted into Latin as “ballista,” referring to an ancient Roman siege engine used to hurl projectiles such as stones or arrows the term eventually evolved into Ballistics and the modern sense referring to the science of motion of a projectile. Today ballistics covers a broad field that includes the study of the flight paths of bullets rockets and other objects thrown or propelled through the air.

So, some of you are reading this and wondering why in the world are you talking about Ballistics I thought you were going to be talking about hunting season. Well, if you're going to talk about the safety of hunting especially white-tailed deer in this part of the country you must talk about safely using a high-powered rifle.

Hunting safety just like in enhanced carry safety there are four universal gun safety rules.

1. Treat all guns as if they are always loaded.
2. Never let the muzzle point at anything that you're not willing to destroy.
3. Keep your finger off the trigger until your sights are on target and you have made the decision to shoot.
4. And be sure of your target and what is beyond.

I need to set the premise for this topic by telling a story about something that happened a little over a week ago. I was at my house, and I received a phone call from one of my renters. She was a little

upset. She was standing in her closet, and she heard a loud explosion that sounded like something in her bathroom. When she went to see what it was and discovered a hole in her shower. She decided to investigate a little bit further and realized that there was a hole that went from the outside to the inside through the outside wall into the shower. Since I operate gun range the first thing, I wanted to do was make sure that no projectiles had left the range, so I went over to investigate myself. What I found was a pristine 30 caliber projectile that could have been a 308, a 300 Blackout, a 30-30 or some high-powered round. A friend who is much better at ballistics was able to determine the exact trajectory of the projectile through the wall and by knowing the type round the speed it was traveling when it penetrated the wall. Long story short the round had to have been fired into the air at something and missed to travel as far as it did to hit that residence.

We need to be sure to inform anyone who hunts with high powered rifles just how dangerous they can be if the target is not impacted, and the projectile is not stopped in a suitable backstop. Also, if the projectile is not stopped it can ricochet and continue much further than most people care to think they would go. The effective range of a 308 is 800-1000 yards however they can travel as much as 3.5 to 4 miles if shot in the

air at a 45-degree angle. Remember rule number 4, always be sure of your target and beyond. We want to bag a big buck, not grandma standing in the kitchen.

EDUCATION

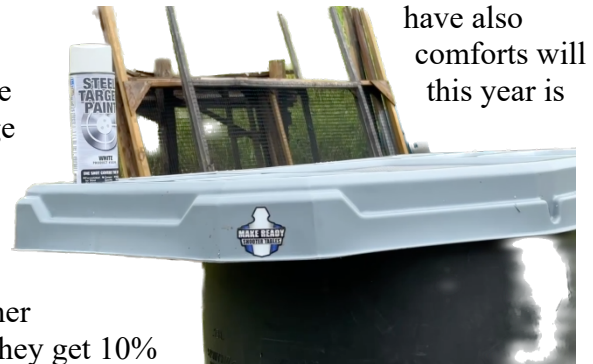
I have seen during this election cycle something that I thought I would never see. There seems to be no indication we live in a constitutional republic anymore. The regime in power now has successfully changed the definition of Democracy. The people no longer control the direction of the government, institutions do. The government and our so-called representatives no longer feel obligated to govern based on the interest of their constituents but instead based on the interests of paid lobbyist. These institutions carry more weight to help politicians get elected so they bow to those interest instead of protecting the citizens of the country. Some are in fact actively working to destroy the United States.

When I see interviews of people walking on the streets or beaches at their vacation spots, I hear them answer in uniformed and unconcerned manner that our freedoms are eroding by the day. So why should we be educated in what is going on politically? It will be much easier to defend yourself if you see the disaster coming. Hope for the best but prepare for the worst. There will come a time, and I'm afraid it may be in my life that we may have to fend for necessities like food and water. During those times we will have to protect against those who will want to take it from those who have prepared for hard times. This leads me to my investment strategy, first food storage, good water supply and precious metals, gold, silver and lead. No need to explain the uses of each of those items.

THE RANGE

Ok enough gloom and doom. What is going on on the range? We have postponed run-n-gun matches in July and August due to the heat. In September we are going to be back with both USPSA and Steel Challenge matches. We are hosting a Steve Anderson seminar (already sold out). And our steel Challenge matches will be all 8 stages. Those who want some practice going into either The State Championship we are hosting here or the well promoted tier one match with the same name in central MS, you can shoot all 8 for \$25 per gun and get classification times in all 8.

We had a special range member who sponsored the November match by purchasing Make Ready Shooter tables for all 8 stages. Even though that member wants to remain anonymous, those shooter tables are the perfect addition to our fairly new range. Since last month we have also added shade for 5 of the 8 shooting bays. Those creature comforts will make shooting steel much better. Another thing we have done this year is by expanding to 10 bays we are able to leave 5 steel challenge stages up all the time for our range members to come practice during range hours all week.



If you want a great place to come practice during the week, consider a NRF range membership. Range members have other privileges also. They get \$5 off one gun for any match fee. They get 10% discount on any purchase in the retail store, including any firearms or accessories ordered through the NRF store. Any transfer fees are \$20 vs \$30 for non-club members. All this and we haven't mentioned we have a 300-yard rifle range also. We also try to have a range cookout every spring and all range members and their family eat free.

TRAINING

I think we need to talk a little about preparation in the home. I spend a lot of time in my basic firearm safety class talking about how to handle yourself in a self-defense shooting incident everywhere except in your home. The one thing I teach is the color codes of awareness. This is a mechanism to determine when we need to have a heightened awareness level. White is unaware. It is when we let our guard down. Typically, it is when we are in our homes. We tend to let our guard down then more so than when we are in public, and we have a gun strapped to us.

Do you know where your firearms are stored in your home? Do you know where ammunition is? Have you trained on how to best access your weapon from different locations in your home? Does your family know where they are? Are they proficient in their use. Would they be willing to use them even if they do know where they are. I am a firearms instructor, and my wife has no desire to fire a weapon even if in a self-defense situation. Have you considered other self-defense options, like a crowbar, baseball bat, taser, or pepper spray. Those questions need to be answered before you are in a situation where you need to protect yourself or a loved one. Keep in mind there may be a time when you have to be the one to defend yourself. Especially in rural America you can't count on the calvary being right around the corner and you may not be able to dial 911. It may be up to you.