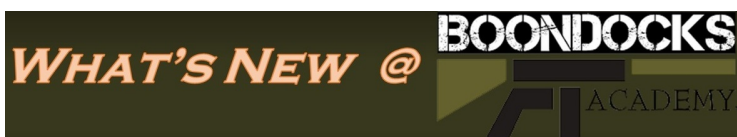


NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020



Boondocks' Blog

Since we starting producing our Newsletter about 2 years ago, we have got a lot of positive feedback. Last year we posted the newsletter archive to our home page so that our readers could go back and read past newsletters. However, what we found is that it is hard to search and re-read the archives for a specific topic. So, beginning this month, we will begin to transition our Newsletter to the [Boondocks' Blog](#). This will allow readers to more easily find topics we covered in past newsletters and will serve as a repository for future topics as well. Check out the Blog on our Home Page, we will be posting more there in the coming months!

Chad J. Winkler

Boondocks Blog

Training Tips

Firearms, Fitness & Personal Protection
There is an old saying "God created man, but Sam Colt made them equal."
Unfortunately, many gun owners believe that just having a gun prepares them for the many threats they may face in life, but true personal protection is much more than just acquiring a firearm. You must also have the physical, mental, and even spiritual "fitness" ...

[read more](#)

Girl Talk

Don't Let a Man Select Your Handgun For women, selecting a firearm should be just as personal as selecting a special pair of new shoes. It has to be comfortable, look good, and serve a purpose. Most of the women I know would be horrified if their husband or significant other just went out and bought them a pair of shoes without first consulting with them. You ...

[read more](#)

What's New

Defensive Pistol LIVE! For 2020 Boondocks FTA™ is launching a new course in our Defensive Pistol Series. Defensive Pistol (DP) LIVE is a 10-12-hour course designed to help you increase your Speed and Accuracy with your Handgun. The course also includes multiple Force on Force Scenarios using UTM Training Guns to simulate LIVE defensive situations. Students will learn to become more efficient ...

[read more](#)

A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State,
IN THE NEWS *the right of the people to keep*
and bear Arms, shall not be infringed

**Virginia Senate Shoots
Down "Assault
Weapons" Ban**

On February 17, the Virginia Senate Judiciary Committee failed to pass [HB 961](#) also known as the "Assault Weapons" ban. Instead, the Committee "[sent the proposal to a state commission for further study.](#)"



Virginia gun owners cheered what appears to be a win after the huge Lobby Day rally in January, however, there are still 5 other gun control bills that did pass and are expected to be signed into law. According to the NY Times article "[Virginia Legislature Turns Down Ban on Military-Style Weapons](#)" the Governor of VA plans to sign bills that will limit handgun purchases to one a month, impose universal background checks for all firearms sales and transfers, and enact a red flag law.

While many are relieved HB 961 did not make it through the Senate, it is likely anti-gun politicians will try again next year. In addition, lawful gun owners will now have to deal with a whole new set of 2nd Amendment infringements on their rights. Lobby Day was a huge success and likely stopped the passage of HB 961, but it was a re-action to the 2019 elections. The fight for the 2nd Amendment Rights in VA will continue into the foreseeable future. In 2020 we must be Pro-Active by becoming informed, "Like" and "Share" Pro-Gun topics, encourage other gun owners to become informed, contribute financially to Pro-Gun organizations like the NRA and 2nd Amendment Foundation, ensure you are registered to vote come election time, and SHOW UP TO THE POLLS and VOTE for Pro-Gun candidates!

Virginians can rejoice in the fact they helped stave off HB 961 for now, but when you consider the Anti-Gun groups passed over 80% of their proposed legislation, it hardly looks like a win!

Chad J. Winkler



The Situationally Aware Mindset!

Mindset is defined as "the established set of attitudes". Whenever I leave my house,

I establish a mindset that includes telling myself that

- 1). I am in charge of taking care of myself and my loved ones.
- 2). I am in “condition yellow” – I am alert and situationally aware of what is going on around me. I will carry myself proudly and confidently.
- 3). I will make it a point to know where exit doors, escape routes and cover are for any building I enter.
- 4). I will remain calm in all situations. I won’t get mad or over react to the actions of others. I will just take a deep breath and let it go. Over-reacting or getting mad is the worst thing you can do in any potentially confrontational situation, especially if you’re carrying a handgun.

Situational awareness is defined as “the ability to scan the environment and sense danger, challenges and opportunities, while maintaining the ability to conduct normal activities.” Whether you carry a handgun or not, you should always be acutely aware of what’s going on around you. If you see someone suspicious coming towards you, stare back at them and remain calm. By doing this, you’ll accomplish two things – he’ll know you’ve seen him AND he’ll no longer see you as any easy target. Predators look for those who are weak, vulnerable and totally oblivious to what’s going on around them (i.e. someone texting while walking). The best way to learn the skill of situational awareness is through daily practice. Learn how to clear your mind so that you’re not distracted by the things happening in your life. Test your observation skills. What store or building are you close to? How tall is that person? Are they male or female? What color hair do they have? What are they wearing? What’s the weather like? Pretty soon, being situationally aware will become second nature to you and you’ll become empowered.

By Jan A. Allinder

Re-loaded from June 2018



Mentally and Physically Training to get off the X

Recently we wrapped
up a [Defensive
Shooting Fundamentals](#)
class here Boondocks

FTA™. The day was spent teaching students to use lateral movement when presenting the pistol from the holster, while reloading or while clearing malfunctions. Moving offline from the attack (especially when accompanied by the use of cover or concealment) can provide you with a huge advantage in a



gunfight. Just a slight shift to the left or right can cause a miss by the bad guy and give you the extra time you need to place a round on target.

After a long day on the range helping students to understand why movement is important, I got a little notification on my phone about a new video upload from John Corriea and [Active Self Protection](#). The [16-minute video](#) clearly shows the advantages to adding movement into your training regiment. As soon as I got this, I forwarded it to the students who had just completed the class. It was a perfect example of the benefits of the skills they practiced on the range and how the application of these skills could really save their lives. While we always try and explain "why" movement is important, it is this type of visual reinforcement that helps to drive the message home, and why it is important to physically train, but also to mentally see how the skills learned on the range can be applied in real life.

Chad J. Winkler

COURSE SPOTLIGHT

Defensive Shooting Fundamentals

Our Defensive
Shooting
Fundamentals Level 1
(DSF-L1) is a blended

learning curriculum that includes the DSF-L1 online eLearning module, the DSF-L1 book, and a full day of live-fire exercises on the range. The student can then complete the eLearning at home at their own pace prior to

the live-fire exercises. During the range time, students are able to ask questions and get immediate personal feedback on the application of those skills. It is those little “A-Ha” moments that can only be obtained by hands-on training that make you an efficient shooter and will likely save you a lot of time and money in the long run.

This class is great for those who are looking to take their first formal firearms training class, or for those who have already completed an Enhanced Carry class and looking for a refresher course. Plus, because the eLearning is done at home, and on your own time, it reduces the need for classroom time, which reduces costs and trips to and from the range. If you are looking for the best “Bang for your Buck” in firearms training, check out our [Defensive Shooting Fundamentals Class](#) schedule.

Course Length - 1 Day

Course Cost - \$230.00

Pre-Requisite - Online Course

Chad J. Winkler



Walther CCP M2 .380



In 2018, Smith & Wesson launched its widely popular 380 Shield EZ pistol. The premise of the mid-sized .380 Shield EZ was that it was easy to load, easy to rack and easy to shoot and that combination has made it a popular option for new lady shooters. The new pistol has proven to be as reliable as any of the other S&W offerings, but if

there is one issue we have seen on the range with the S&W is the ability of some shooters to consistently engage the backstrap safety.

In January, [Walther](#) quietly introduced the mid-sized [CCP M2 chambered in .380 ACP](#). Walther describes the new CCP, as "the first polymer pistol with Softcoil gas technology. This technology improves the user's experience by reducing overall felt recoil and allowing the slide to be easily manipulated regardless of hand strength. The CCP is also the most ergonomic and comfortable handgun in Walther's dynamic concealed carry lineup. Tool-less takedown and a fixed barrel allow for easy cleaning and maintenance, making this one of the most accessible pistols available today.

With additional popular features such as an external safety, front, and rear slide serrations and a reversible magazine release, the CCP M2 handgun is sure to become a valuable addition to your everyday carry."

Walther has long been known for high quality, ergonomic handguns, the addition of the new CCP in .380 looks to continue this tradition. If you are looking for a quality carry gun, that is easy and fun to shoot on the range, stop by our Pro Shop and check out the new CCP M2 .380.

Chad J. Winkler



Quality Range Gear

One of the biggest hurdles for those signing up for a Defensive Pistol class is understanding the gear necessary to complete the course. In preparation for the

upcoming MAG40 here at Boondocks FTA™ with Massad Ayoob, I went and checked his website for a recommended gear list. Here is what I found.



The Massad Ayoob MAG 40 Gear List

* A good quality handgun, suitable for self-protection and/or concealed carry.

Remember that you will be firing approximately 500 rounds during this class, so ultra-lightweight firearms, though suitable for concealed carry, are not a good choice for class use. It is a good idea to bring a spare gun, if you have one, just in case your primary gun breaks. (it happens more than you think)

- * A good quality holster. You need a safe, quality holster and belt. Again, if you have any questions, please contact us.

- * A minimum of 3 magazines or speed loaders for your handgun.

- * A magazine pouch/holder for at least 2 of your spare magazines or speed loaders.

- * A sturdy belt, to support the above.

- * Hearing protection.

- * Eye protection.

- * Billed cap or other brimmed headwear.

- * At least 500 rounds of decent quality, reliable ammunition. Range ammunition (FMJ, etc.) is fine. You do not need to use premium self-defense ammo for this course.

- * Firearm cleaning supplies plus any tools / lubricants that you might need.

In addition to these items, the list on his website contains additional suggestions for clothing, note taking material and even a flashlight. While those are great suggestions, I really wanted to focus on a few of the most critical items, particularly the guns, holsters, and belt.

The Gun - Massad states you should bring a "Good Quality Gun", that is not "ultra-light" and also to "bring a spare gun." For first time gun owners or first time students this might be a little vague. Here are my suggestions. For classes where you will be firing close to 500 rounds, I would suggest a mid-size to full-size gun. Something with a magazine capacity of 12-15 rounds or larger. As far as the brand of gun, my suggestion is to stay with the major name brands such as Glock, Smith & Wesson, Sig, Beretta, HK, FN, Springfield, and Ruger. If you really drill down into the guns most often used in these classes, Glock and S&W are usually the top of the list every time. There is a reason for that, there tend to be less issues with these brands. However, even the best guns have problems, and that is why Massad says "bring a spare". Having an identical backup gun is nice for holster and magazine capability. For my training purposes, I use a Glock 45, and my spare is either a Glock 17 or Glock 34. Both will fit in my training holster and all the magazines are interchangeable.

The Holster - This is where students tend to have the most trouble. There are hundreds of different holsters out there and everyone claims theirs is the best. My recommendation is the holster should be a Polymer, Kydex, or other rigid material holster that is made specifically for the make and model of your gun. Hybrid holsters that incorporate a combination of Kydex and Leather may start off as great options, the leather softens over time and can be less safe. My Every Day Carry (EDC) Holster is a [Vedder Light Tuck](#) Inside The Waistband (IWB), and I use a [Comp-Tac Warrior](#) Outside the Waistband (OWB) Holster for range work. The IWB

is a little more concealable for EDC, while the OWB holster is compatible with my primary and secondary gun and a little safer and easier to draw and re-holster for training purposes. However, I use my EDC IWB holster for my driver fire routine.

The Gun Belt - The belt is often the most overlooked gear item, but the belt is the foundation on which everything else is built. A belt that is too loose or too flimsy can drastically effect the you ability to get the gun out of the holster. The belt needs to be sufficiently rigid to both hold the gun up while it is holstered and keep the holster down while drawing the gun. The best options for belts are both rigid and infinitely adjustable. My EDC belt is a [Nexbelt EDC Gunbelt](#) or a [Crossbreed Crossover belt](#). Both are rigid enough to support a full size firearm and allow me to adjust to the precise tension.

The Boondocks Benefit

The benefit of a facility like Boondocks is that it has a full service Pro Shop and is staffed with instructors to ensure you get the most out of your training class. Not only can we get you geared up for high round count classes like DPI, DPII or Defensive Vehicle Tactics, we also offer classes such as our Defensive Shooting Fundamentals or Defensive Carry class specifically designed for smaller carry guns. Just last week, we ran a Defensive Shooting Fundamentals Class. One of the students was a woman who literally fired her first shot just a few weeks ago in our Basic Pistol Class. She arrived for her second class full of anxiety, feeling overwhelmed and that she was afraid she didn't have the experience of the overwhelmingly majority of male students. We got her geared up and assured here she would do fine. Not only did she complete the class, but she was one of the top shots in the class! Statistically she is now one of the [1% of gun owners](#) in the United States. She now realizes [The Price of Security is Eternal Vigilance](#) .

Chad J. Winkler

To subscribe to future newsletter click [HERE!](#)

For more information on all the training options at Boondocks Firearms Training Academy™, visit our website www.boondocksfta.com, like us on [Facebook](#) or call our ProShop at 769-972-2382



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