



Williams Sportsman's Club

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"On Target!"



June 2021

President's Message

Another Day, Another Dollar!!!!

This has always been a commonly heard statement when one is conversing with friends about their life's events.

Ask any WSC volunteer and the answer you'll probably hear is "Another Day, Another Project"!!! Seems like the Club's "honey do" slate is hard to clean off, like pine tree sap off the bottom of one's shoes!!!

But once again the perseverance of WSC volunteers has brought another project to completion. The pistol ramadas now have concrete flooring. Pavers were installed recently by a highly motivated group of folks (see pictures later in this newsletter). These pavers will provide a safe and positive foundation for shooters utilizing the pistol ramadas.

It's been said before, but warrants repeating---WSC would not exist without a dedicated group of volunteers. They give of their free time to make the Club a safe and fun place to shoot. Our Range Safety Officers provide necessary direction to shooting activities each day the Range is open—and that day can easily consume 6 or more hours of their time.

Come on out and enjoy the WSC Range improvements—and if the urge stirs you, ask "what can I do to help".

Keith Heimes
WSC President

Announcements

Law Enforcement Training at the WSC Range

The Range is utilized by many users – the public, public safety agencies, and the military. While the WSC is the most frequent and largest user, everyone makes the effort to cooperatively schedule range time to fit training and event demands.

Recently personnel from the Arizona courts system participated in live weapons qualification, 'shoot – don't shoot,' and active shooter scenarios.



AZ required peace officer live fire qualification.



Use of Force Training - In this scenario the trainee is confronted by a noncompliant and aggressive subject who despite being commanded by an armed officer to halt continues his aggressive approach while exhibiting a hostile and resistive attitude. These scenarios stress the trainees who are rated on their ability to properly employ tactics appropriate for each case and their knowledge and proper employment of the 'Use of Force Continuum.' It should be pointed out that the trainee is not using an actual pistol – it is a plastic 'blue gun' specifically designed and colored blue for law enforcement scenario training events. While the weapon is make-believe the stress on the trainee and intimidation projected by the 'suspect' is real for sure!

Club Management

Board of Directors

President - Keith Heimes

Vice President – Bruce Speirs (and Newsletter Editor)

Secretary - Sheldon White

Treasurer - Matthew Fleece (and Chief RSO)

Parks and Rec Liaison - Rodger Ely

Board Members-at-Large

 Chuck Corcoran (and Membership Director)

 Annette Perkins

 Jack Douglas

Sporting Clays Director - Warren Weir

WSC Board Elections

The elections for your WSC Board of Directors will be in July. The current officers have indicated a collective willingness to continue in their present positions.

Monthly meetings

WSC Board and General meetings are held the second Wednesday evening of every month starting at 5:30 PM at the American Legion Hall, 425 West Grant Ave. All WSC members and the public are welcome to attend.

June 9th Board Meeting Highlights –

- The WSC Board approved to have membership recruitment at the next Williams' Gun Show, Saturday and Sunday, June 26th & 27th. A table, popup canopy, WSC informational literature and membership sign up forms will be provided. Two WSC members will be requested to staff the table each day (as a benefit it also includes 'free' admission to the gun show). The times are Saturday 9am to 5pm, Sunday 9am to 3pm.
- The Ladies' Shoot program and its latest event was discussed. It was decided that the course would be streamlined and with the intent to be more user friendly. The item is being worked on presently and the final plan will be reviewed at the WSC board meeting on July 13th.
- Next Sporting Clays event scheduled for Sunday June 27th – see article on page 7 for further information. As our supply of 12 ga ammo is diminishing quickly therefore beginning with the July 25th shoot the WSC will only sell ammo to Club members.
- The completion of the Pistol ramadas was reviewed. The next Range Improvement Project will be the construction of an RSO booth and parking lot improvements. Identifying future Range Improvements and recommendations for their priority and scheduling was also discussed.
- The annual re-election of WSC Board of Directors is scheduled for July.

Next WSC Board meeting set for Wednesday July 14th at 5:30 PM.

You too can share in all the fun!

Copied from the WSC Bylaws - Section 5. Rights, Privileges and Duties of Members

a) In that the WSC is maintained for the benefit of every member, each member should strive to share in the responsibility for its continued operation. Therefore, it is vital to the WSC that each member volunteer a portion of his/her time, knowledge and effort as is possible to achieve the goals and objectives of the WSC so the burden of operating the WSC is not consistently placed on just a few members.

Key phrases –

- Maintained for the benefit of every member....
- Each member should strive to share in the responsibility....
- Vital that each member should volunteer...
- So the burden is not consistently placed on a few members....

Do you have a skill that would benefit the WSC? We have lots of different projects and tasks that occasionally require some help. Stay tuned for 'Help Wanted' announcements.

Range Activities

Range Schedule

A Friendly Remember - the WSC Range is controlled by the City of Williams operating under a USFS Special Use Permit and Williams PD has overall authority. That being said we, the members of the WSC, must remain flexible and do our part to maintain our shooting privileges. Make it a routine to check the WSC website for updates and important announcements.

Range Procedure – IMPORTANT!

The RSO's want to remind everyone to please check in with the RSO as soon as you get to the Range and before you bring your firearms out. The Range may be "**Hot**" and the RSO busy so be patient and give them a minute to work you into the action. And for you shooters on the line you may be asked to help out by accommodating the occasional intermission of a "**COLD**" range being declared to let our fellow WSC shooters set up and join in.

Yes you may bring Guests to shoot at the Range but read this.....

Guests are welcome! Just sign the guest 'One Day' waiver form, and with a suggested \$5 donation, folks are more than welcome to come out and shoot for a day. We know they will have a great time and will want to come back time and time again. The current policy is a guest may shoot one time but if they decide they want to come again they must sign up to be a

regular member on that next visit. Tell them 'Try it, you'll like it!' as there is no downside to becoming a WSC member and frequent range user.

Range Improvement Project

Yes Virginia, people have taken notice of our Range Improvements!

Here are two recent comments from a group that uses our Williams Shooting Range –

"I wanted to thank you and the club again for your support of the CSOFA program. The additional shade was greatly appreciated."

And

"I have enjoyed the use of the Williams Range for many years as the Lead Firearm's Instructor and Tactics Trainer (for our agency). The recent work you all have done is amazing. Let me know if there is anything I can do to help in the future."

Got Cardboard? Do your Part!

The Range is always in need of a steady supply of replacement target frame cardboard and more precisely, nice square pieces that measure 18X36 inches. So if you have been to the range and blasted the center out of your target you should consider contributing some cardboard target material. The only requirement is that YOU must cut it to size at home first before you bring it. And please give us flat, decent quality cardboard for range use. The RSO's and your fellow shooters thank you! We don't buy this stuff folks so help out when you can.

New Pistol Ramadas Finished and Ready for Use!

This last weekend a cadre of happy volunteers completed the final touches on our new Pistol ramadas - specifically the paver flooring.



Left to right - Wynn Simon, Chuck Corcoran, and Bob Swisher start 'laying 'em down!'

(Photo by Chris Mayer)



The finished product
(Photo by Keith Heimes)



Left to right Bob Swisher,
Keith Heimes, Bruce
Speirs, Chuck Corcoran,
Jack Douglas, and Wynn
Simon

(Photo by Chris Mayer)

While officially 'finished'
the standard 'shooting
accessories rear shelf' -
just like the rifle bays
have - will be installed in
the near future.

Keith Heimes, caught up in the excitement of all the new Range Improvements, was overheard belting out this WSC version of the 1940 Woody Guthrie song 'This Land is Your Land.'

*"This range is my range, this range is your range, from the shooting benches, to the distant targets, this range is maintained by you and me." (And a performance I wish I had on video...)
Attention Keith – America's Got Talent TV show awaits you!*

WSC Shotgun Activities

WSC Sporting Clays inaugural shoot conducted

The WSC Sporting Clays effort held its official inaugural shoot on Sunday May 23, 2021. Thirteen brave souls ventured out to the Sporting Clays Range at Camp Raymond to test their wing shooting expertise. Mother Nature was kind enough to provide mild winds and pleasant temperatures. Most all the clay targets launched were transformed into pieces before hitting the ground—but a few were a victim of what the aeronautical world calls CFIT---that is “controlled flight into terrain”!!! And that terrain would be the rocks and dirt on the clays course!!

Lessons learned from this shoot. We will strive to limit the number of shooters to a maximum of 12. This will keep wait times for all the shooters to an acceptable level and allow course completion in approximately 2.5 hours. Minimum number of shooters will be 5—this to justify the effort required to open and close the Range.

Next Sporting Clays event scheduled for Sunday June 27th

Going forward, shoots will be held the 4th Sunday of each month. Reservations are requested and will be honored on a first come first served basis. Please RSVP to KHeimes@Hotmail.com. If demand for slots dictates, a second monthly shoot will be entertained. If you are interested in shooting clays, please respond to the email above and your info will be included in the master email listing. Also note that as the club’s supply of 12 ga ammo is diminishing quickly the WSC will only sell ammo to Club members beginning the July 25th shoot. Thanks for your understanding.

Range Safety Officers

New RSO

Please welcome Wynn Simon to our RSO cadre! Wynn has extensive background as an NRA instructor and will be a tremendous asset to our group.

RSO Range Booth

The Board approved the construction of a booth for the RSO’s to utilize when performing their duties. It is intended to provide a shaded vantage position for the RSO to utilize thereby freeing up one of the Rifle ramadas that has historically been repurposed as the sign in station, membership information stand, sanitary hand wash location, and the trauma kit position.

Tactical Tips – Elmer Keith

"Finally I found a bullet hole back of the right jaw and it came out of the top of his nose. That was the shot I'd hit him with out at 600 yards." - Elmer Keith re: hunting Brown Bear in Alaska with a .44 S&W Magnum revolver.



When the .44 Magnum is mentioned, most handgunners probably associate it with the names Smith & Wesson and Elmer Keith.

Keith (1899-1984) was the real deal: rancher, author, ballistician, reloader, firearms expert, and big-game guide and hunter. As a young man, he became fascinated with trying to improve the performance of revolver cartridges.

Keith's early work in loading the .38 Special to increasingly higher pressure levels was made possible by the availability of heavy large-frame revolvers such as the S&W .38-44 Heavy Duty and Outdoorsman. The results of his experimentation contributed to S&W introducing the .357 Magnum cartridge in 1935. He is also credited with developing the Keith-style bullet, which provided greater wounding properties and penetration.

Keith encouraged Remington to produce a powerful .44-caliber cartridge and Smith & Wesson to produce a revolver chambered for it. The resulting .44 Magnum cartridge, and the S&W Model 29 revolver, were announced to the public on January 19, 1956. The .44 S&W Magnum was the first handgun cartridge considered capable of taking any North American game animal and can be credited with the meteoric increase in the popularity of handgun hunting.

Elmer Keith also wrote extensively about firearms, shooting, reloading and hunting, and his work was published in several of the world's most respected firearms journals and magazines. He was a pioneer in the realm of the revolver and its capabilities. It's unlikely we'll see his kind again.

Membership Report

New Members

Here are 18 new individuals who have joined as members since our May 2021 WSC membership meeting -

Helen Bartlett

Sandy Leger

Wynn Simon

Susan Benz

James Nobles Jr.

Patricia Sloane

Don & Linda Buss

Jon Robertson

Doug Smead

Holly Howard

Larry & Alice Roser

Cindy Wallace

Linda Kraetz

Louis Rowe

Perry Kroh

Chelci Shearer

Gun Shows Info

Go to www.arizonagunshows.net for the most up to date information before traveling.

June 26 & 27 Williams & Mesa

Quotable Quote

"That rifle on the wall of the laborers' cottage or working class flat is the symbol of democracy. It is our job to see that it stays there." - George Orwell

Snap 'Shot'



"It's probably my age that tricks people into thinking I'm an adult....." Photo by Chris Mayer

You'll notice Keith Heimes kept a steady hand on the tractor controls and remained undistracted and focused. He did, however, submit the following pronouncements of what was possibly occurring -

- A. Bruce demonstrating how to "auto rotate" into the cinder berm.
- B. A new "woke" dance commemorating earth day.
- C. Here, here, I want more cinders here??
- D. None of the above--it's just Bruce being Bruce!

WSC Lock, Stock & Barrel Trivial Pursuit - LIFE SKILLS = Your Best Defense during Civil Unrest

The answer is - **Awareness, Calmness, and Appearance**



In today's world of high-probability sporadic violence, it is important to stay ahead of the action-reaction power curve. Roman Philosopher Seneca (4 BC – AD 65) is credited with saying "The man who has anticipated the coming of troubles takes away their power when they arrive." The sooner you can hear it, see it, smell it coming, places you further in front of the curve and in position to avoid, mitigate or defend against a developing threat.

Failing avoidance, how may we then further mitigate or defend against the maladies of civil unrest? In ways are more readily accessible than you may think. They are awareness, calmness, and appearance.

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS

Whether at home, in your car, or on foot, applying good situational awareness eliminates the tactical disadvantage of being surprised or placing yourself behind the action-reaction power curve. As such it can be used to control your environment.

Protection experts use situational awareness as a deterrent. When a predator knows that you are on to them, the element of surprise has been removed and attenuates their motivation.

Situational awareness keeps you informed of what your environment is telling you and a step ahead of events that are emerging around you. It keeps you connected to your surroundings and prepared. When effectively applied, situational awareness can be used to take control of your environment, act as a deterrent and make you a harder target.

KEEP CALM AND CARRY ON

The mind, your most powerful weapon, is also your greatest asset. The mind is what allows you to think, perceive and make sound tactical decisions. It is paramount to the self-protection and that of your loved ones in the event of civil unrest.

How, then, using our most powerful weapon, may control of our environment as opposed to our environment controlling us? According to second century Stoic Roman Emperor and Philosopher Marcus Aurelius, who reigned during a pandemic and civil unrest of the 2nd century AD over the most powerful empire on earth at the time, *“External things are not the problem; it’s your assessment of them.”*

In other words, we cannot control the events transpiring around us, but we can control our perception of them leading to sound decisions which in turn allow us to formulate an appropriate response. Sound tactical decisions are made when your mind can process accurate incoming information. (Editor’s note – This is capsulated in a great quote from the movie *Dark Territory* in which the paramilitary group leader states “Chance favors a Prepared Mind.”)

Nothing is more formidable in combat than a clear mind. Marcus Aurelius advises *“It’s all in how you perceive it. You are in control. You can dispense with misperception at will [resulting in] serenity, total calm, and safe anchorage.”* Your mind additionally plays a critical role in building mental resilience and confidence. Protection experts, who work in high-threat environments, are sometimes armed only with their most powerful weapon. They need to remain calm and collected when under duress, and they must have what it takes mentally to be successful.

Remaining calm is a function of mental toughness which is the measure of individual resilience and confidence that can project success at home, at work, in competition and under duress. It refers to any set of positive non-physical attributes that helps you to cope with the threatening situation and perform under duress and in difficult situations.

You must be willing to hope for the best but plan for the worst. Using mental imagery, visualize yourself in the middle of your worse-case nightmare before it occurs. What would you do? What are your options? How would you best respond?

If you plan ahead of time, run that movie clip or scenario in your imagination and work out solutions mentally, then, if it ever happened, you’ve already consciously worked through the problem and are far more prepared to engage a real-world violent physical threat. Remaining calm makes you a harder target.

APPEARANCE

Those intent on causing harm will perceive you as either a soft target or hard target. You want to appear as a hard target and make them ask the question “Are their softer targets?” and respond “Yes.” To do this, you can eliminate soft-target indicators such as “do you appear to be unaware?”, “do you appear to be weak?”, or “do you appear to be alone?” You can be any one or even any two of these things but if you appear to be all three combined this is like hitting the jackpot in Las Vegas for the predator.

Another soft-target indicator is a breach of informational security (INFOSEC). The information you publicly share can be used against you. Did you or anyone in the family post anything on-line that can be used against you?

Case in point, a close family friend recently purchased a very high-end home-entertainment system of which she was so proud she couldn’t wait to post it on her social media replete with high-resolution photos and video. *“Oh, it’s so amazing! It was expensive but it’s totally worth it! See here’s one of the 75” flat screen TVs in our living room, this one in the master bedroom, another one in basement, and one in each of the kids’ rooms. We keep all the audio and system electronics right here in Joe’s gun room but we’re bummed out because we won’t be able to use it until we get home next month from our vacation so there won’t be anyone here to enjoy it!”* Truly a cringe-worthy security breach.

Do the bumper stickers on the back of your car tell a predator how many kids you have? Where they go to school? Where you live? That you may possibly have weapons on board? A breach of INFOSEC can cause a predator to deliberate: “Is this an easy mark?” Avoid displaying either identifying or potentially antagonistic observable messages. Be cognizant of appearance. Our choices determine our actions and the actions of others. Advocated by one of the most revered world leaders of antiquity, such proactive measures as awareness, calmness and appearance applied during civil unrest remain as relevant today as they did in the 2nd century.

Article courtesy of Steve Tarani, December 8, 2020, American COP magazine.

The Grump – “Here’s my opinion – ought to be yours!”



I walked into the barbershop for a shave and a haircut.

I told the barber *“I can’t get all my whiskers off because my cheeks are so wrinkled from age.”* The barber went and got a little wooden ball from a cup on the shelf and told me to put it inside my cheek to spread out the skin.

When the barber was all done shaving me I told him *“That was the cleanest shave I’ve had in years”* but I wanted to know *“what would have happened if someone had accidentally swallowed that little ball?”* The barber replied *“Just bring it back in a couple of days like everyone else does.”*