



# WEST WALKER SPORTSMAN

P.O. BOX 141104, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49514 (616) 453-5081

JUNE

www.wwsc.org

2003

## Big Gun Raffle

The May winner in our yearlong raffle is Mark Kramer with ticket number 149. Mark won a Remington 700 BDL in 7mm Rem. mag. Congratulations Mark! The June drawing will feature a fine Beretta AL 391 12 ga. with walnut stock and hard side case. The drawing will be at 7:00 PM, June 24, at the Board of Directors meeting.

## Range Safety

One of our members has reminded us of the need to be especially cautious around black powder. For those of you who may not be familiar with this type of powder, it is necessary for it to be exposed on the firing line when shooting muzzle-loading guns. Therefore, smoking must be avoided in the vicinity of a shooter who is firing a muzzleloader. Please be aware of those around you when using the ranges, and let's all shoot safely.

## Our Advertisers

You have no doubt seen the various ads in the monthly newsletter, and perhaps have read an article or two contributed by some of our advertisers. All of these folks are fellow club members. You can help show your appreciation for their support of our club by purchasing their goods and services. A new advertiser this month, Harald Schillinger, also happens to be the general manager at Production Tool Supply, 44<sup>th</sup> and Patterson SE. Harald has generously agreed to offer a ten percent discount to all club members at his store. All you need to do is show your current WWSC membership card and the clerk will give you your discount. Production Tool Supply

carries all sorts of wood and metalworking tools and machinery, as well as most common hand tools. Thanks Harald.

As an advertiser in our monthly newsletter, you reach approximately 1200 fellow sportsmen and their families every month. If you are interested in purchasing an ad, call Dave Krysiak at 997-7029. Rates for a business card sized ad are:

- 1 month \$35.
- 3 months (consecutive) \$90.
- 1 year (12 consecutive months) \$300.

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## New Member Drive

Don't forget that WWSC is offering a free one-year renewal to any associate member who signs up three new members (not renewals) before the end of the current calendar year. This is a great way to enjoy the club free for a year while helping our club grow. We all have a friend, co-worker, or family member who shoots or hunts that needs a place to enjoy the shooting sports. See if you can bring 'em in!

# CCW and You

by John Speck, NRA Instructor

Firearm selection is always a topic among shooters, at clubs, and whenever sportsmen gather. There are many good choices out there and personal preference is always a factor. Let me share some ideas gained in twelve years of carrying a firearm for personal protection.

Quality is #1. It must feed, fire, and function **every time!** Your life may depend on it. Save money elsewhere, but get a name brand firearm for your carry gun. If you find something better next year, trade it in, or if you can afford it, keep both guns. (Who needs an excuse to buy another firearm?)

”User friendly” for you, personally, is a second factor. That includes such things as comfort, concealability, caliber, stopping power, type of action, and size. Some experts say stainless steel wears better, others prefer good old steel blue that is not so easily seen, especially in low light. Still others recommend a polymer (plastic) frame gun due to its lighter weight.

Comfort is important for a number of reasons. The size of your hand, your physical condition (arthritis?) and method of carry all contribute to your choice in firearms. Your willingness to practice, I believe, is most important. If your firearm is enjoyable to shoot, you will practice more often, and be more likely to defend yourself successfully.

Here are some concealment factors to consider. Semi-autos are thinner than revolvers. Larger firearms (usually in larger calibers) require more layers of clothing and larger holsters. Remember that accidentally exposing your firearm is a major concern. Use care.

Caliber and “stopping Power” are often viewed as the same thing. However, stopping power is more accurately related to shot placement. Other than the larger magnum calibers, handguns are not great stoppers, so shot placement and follow-up shots are more important than mere bullet size. Your


assailant could be numb from drugs and not easily stopped. Choose a caliber and gun combination you enjoy shooting, and keep practicing so you can shoot accurately.

The choice between revolver and semi-auto is a personal one. Either will do the job. Those serious about personal protection will try a number of firearms, go shooting with friends, buy, try and sell, consult with firearms dealers, and glean information from various gun publications. My experience with short-barreled ultra-light revolvers is that they can be difficult to shoot comfortably, and therefore difficult to shoot accurately. They are very simple initially to operate. However, if you spend the proper amount of time practicing (so that you really know your firearm), that simplicity is not all that important.


Finally, we come to firearm size. In many cases, size equals caliber. Therefore, a small easy to shoot and conceal weapon may be in a smaller caliber. Remember that too small can be a hindrance in terms of accuracy, so maybe a “middle of the road” approach is worth considering. Whatever your choice, practice is essential.

By now you are either informed or confused, but can no doubt tell that I am in favor of much practice. The bottom line is that a bigger caliber or firearm is added protection, but only if you can respond quickly and accurately. Keep up with your training. If you need a CCW or civilian tactical pistol class to help you move to the next level, give me a call or sign up at Al & Bob’s Sports Center. See you at the range. ♣

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# June

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	2	3	4 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	5	6	7 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
8 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	9	10 7 yard range closes 4:30	11 Archery, Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	12 Charter Meeting 7:30	13	14 Steel Plate, Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
15 <b>Fathers Day</b> Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	16	17	18 Archery, Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	19	20	21 Silhouette Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
22 Archery Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	23	24 Board Meeting/Gu n Drawing 7:00 PM	25 Archery Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	26	27	28 Archery Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
29 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	30	<b>July</b>		1 Archery, Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	2 <b>Independence Day</b>	3 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
6 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	7			8 Archery, Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	9 Charter Meeting 7:30	10 Steel Plate Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3
13 Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 2	14	15 7 Yd. Range Closes 4:30	16 Archery, Trap & Skeet 9 to 12 AM 6 to 10 PM	17	18	19 Silhouette Archery, Trap & Skeet 10 to 3

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### IHMSA 05/17/03 Match Report

It was a rather light turnout for our May match. The weather was great so I guess a lot of shooters must have been home doing spring cleanup or busy with other spring activities. There were a total of 8 shooters shooting 16 events, including two non-IHMSA shooters. Bill Vanderwall shot a leg up into INT in Field Pistol Production with a score of 35. Congratulations Bill. The air pistol shooting seemed to work out better at this match since the targets were rearranged from their positions at the last match. Chris Hackett improved his score from the last match, shooting a leg up into Production B class. Bill Clark didn't do to bad also for his first air pistol match. Hopefully more shooters will give the air game a try. It's a great way to introduce a youngster to competitive shooting. Thanks to Dave F., Dennis, Chris, and Rick for their help in running the match and setting targets.

**Note: The steel plate shoots will move to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month for the rest of the season. Silhouette will remain on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday.**

Scott Larabel, Match Director

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