



SAGA SNIPPETS

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SAGA Membership and Plans

2018

Welcome to 2018! SAGA has a number of exciting plans for the year - we will keep you updated in Snippets, on our website and on our Facebook page.

SAGA Membership

With the new year comes new membership fees but, we are pleased to announce, that this increase has been kept to a minimum for renewing members. In fact, the increase is just R10 for adult members and there has been no increase at all for juniors and pensioners.

Fees for 2018 are as follows:

New Members:

Adult R200
Junior or Pensioner R150
Family Head R200
Family Member R50

Renewing Members:

Adult R150
Junior or Pensioner R100
Family Head R150
Family Member R50

Life membership remains R3500 and the various categories of Corporate membership remain at the same rates as 2017.

For more information about your membership category or to enquire about category options please contact the office (details above). We hope that by keeping fees low, you will continue to support SAGA with your membership. Now, as much as ever before, we need the support of our members. The office will be running a membership drive over the next few months so if you know of anyone who should be a member now is the time to get them to join.

Legislation

This year starts with the SA Hunters court case in the Constitutional Court at the beginning of February. SAGA remains involved with supporting this case and will advise members of the outcome as soon as it is available.

In addition, we expect that the Firearms Control Amendment Bill could also be on the table. If this is the case, it will require serious input from SAGA and all related pro-firearm organisations.

Legislative matters will once again absorb much of our time and resources. We urge you to remain informed at all times - firearm ownership is a responsibility you cannot take lightly.

Administration

Over the next few months SAGA will be implementing various new procedures as we work towards being fully compliant with the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPI). So if you are asked to submit anything, complete a form or such, please do so as quickly as possible to ensure we can move ahead with our work.

HuntEx Dates

Dates for HuntEx 2018 have been announced as:
Friday 27 April to Sunday 29 April inclusive. Thursday 26 April will be VIP day.

Make a note in your diary to visit the show and our stand in Hall 2. We will have some stunning new insignia to show you and be updating memberships on the spot. Meet the office team and some of the role players who work tirelessly to safeguard your firearm rights.

*Wishing all our members a
safe and responsible
firearm owning year ahead!*



Self-Defense Awareness: What is **Condition Orange**?

https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2018/1/10/self-defense-awareness-what-is-condition-orange/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0118

by Sheriff Jim Wilson
Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Some years ago, defensive shooting instructor Jeff Cooper devised his color code to help us identify and prepare to deal with the threats around us. The various conditions of preparedness are as follows:

Condition White...

We are unaware and unprepared

Condition Yellow...

We are in a state of relaxed alertness

Condition Orange...

We observe a potential threat

Condition Red...

The threat is real

Of these four states of awareness, Condition Orange is often misunderstood. Yet, surprisingly, it is a condition that we may face on almost a daily basis: We see situations that could possibly be a threat to ourselves and our family. Let's look at some of the things we must consider and the necessary mindset for dealing with a potential threat.

That potential threat may take many forms. It might be a group of rowdy teens roaming our neighborhood. It might be a stranger in a store who just looks like he is out of place and may be up to no good. It might be a large dog running loose while we are on our daily walk. Clearly, a threat to our safety can take many forms and you can, undoubtedly, think of many other examples.

Since we are taking pains to be aware of what is going on around us, hopefully we see this potential threat while there is still some distance between us and it. Our first thought should always be to determine a way to get away from the threat. We look for exits. We consider going in another direction. In short, we consider taking whatever action that will help us avoid contact. Since we don't know, at this point, if the threat is real, we may not take these actions...but we certainly consider them.

Since we don't know that the threat is real, we will probably not draw our defensive handgun. But we will begin to prepare for that eventuality. We will unzip, or unbutton, any covering garment that is concealing our firearm. We will make sure that our hands are empty or, at least, prepare to drop what we are carrying, in case drawing the gun becomes necessary. In short, we are preparing ourselves to quickly get away if the threat becomes real, or we are preparing to fight if our exit is blocked or our lives become threatened.

The most important thing to remember in dealing with a potential threat is to keep it under constant observation until either it

leaves the area, you leave the area, or something happens to satisfy you that this is not a real threat. This is not the time to turn your back on the possible problem and play like it doesn't exist. In doing so, you have given the criminal - if he or she is a criminal - the advantage.

A good example might be if we see a snake in our yard. We don't know if it is a venomous snake or not. So we keep it under close observation until it leaves the yard or until we determine that it is non-venomous. In doing so, we stay at a safe distance and are prepared to deal with it if that becomes necessary.

If you think about it, we are in Condition Orange frequently. And the vast majority of the time it turns out that the threat is not real. In that case, we go back into Condition Yellow (relaxed alertness) and go on about our business.

The whole purpose of the Color Code is to help us mentally and physically prepare to deal with deadly threats and dangerous situations. By understanding Condition Orange, we are often able to completely avoid problems before they become a deadly threat.

OBLIVIOUS

AWARE

ALERT

ENGAGED

Help For the New Shooter

by Paul Markel

31 December 2017

For generations, the tradition of firearms ownership was a family affair - fathers passed down their knowledge of guns and shooting to their sons. As our nation grew, wives and daughters began taking to the field and learned to use firearms to defend the home. It was simply expected for every member of the American household to be able to safely and effectively use firearms.

Then came the modern, "enlightened" era. Men and women were deceived into believing only their personal pleasure was important. Self-gratification was all they needed. Matters such as protecting the family and home were best left to others. The government, through local police agencies, was now responsible for protecting the homestead - not the father and mother.

As members of our society abdicated their personal responsibilities, the generational chain began to break down. Sons were no longer taught by their fathers to use firearms. Brides demanded their new husbands get rid of their guns and the "enlightened" husband acquiesced. These people were satisfied that, at some future date, they could always obtain guns if and when they wanted.

New modern era

Today, rather than commuting to work in flying cars, living in underwater cities or taking vacations to the moon, fathers and mothers have lost their jobs and homes. Disposable income has shrunk and retirement plans have shriveled. Natural and man-made disasters have brought mob violence and widespread looting directly to the front doorstep. The threat of terrorism continues to nag at the mind of responsible citizens.

For those of us who never left the fold, we watch with quiet amazement every time there is a riot or disaster as the "enlightened" people flock to gun stores looking for the same "barbaric" tools they once eschewed. Historically, a post-disaster spike in firearm sales and interest in personal defense is over rather quickly.

When we consider the sales figures of personal-defense firearms and ammunition over the last few years, it seems the situation is no longer a spike, but rather a genuine trend. I have many close friends who are firearms instructors, and they all report the number of new shooters attending their classes - particularly women - has risen dramatically.

Serving the new gun owner

Given the thousands upon thousands of new gun owners in the United States, it only makes sense for us to take a moment to consider how we, the faithful ones, can best help them or serve their needs. Let's break this discussion down into a few different categories, beginning with firearm manufacturers.

Manufacturers

While those in the firearm industry are not perfect, for the last several years they have indeed been gearing new products toward the novice gun owner. Walking into a gun store to purchase your first firearm can be a pretty daunting task. There is so much from which to choose, and gun people all speak their own language.

Smith & Wesson, Ruger, Glock, Springfield Armory, Kel-Tec, Kahr Arms and SIG Sauer all come immediately to mind, because they have introduced or reintroduced handguns that are uncomplicated and affordable. And that is really what the novice shooter needs - a gun that fits their budget and one

they can operate without difficulty. Many of these manufacturers are offering pistol kits complete with a holster and magazine pouch.

When it comes to choosing ammunition, the task is complicated by the fact so many different loads are available for each chambering. Many ammo manufacturers - Federal, Winchester, Remington and Hornady, to name a few - have updated their packaging and specifically labeled the boxes as "Personal Defense" or "Home Defense."

Several firearms and ammunition manufacturers have hired big-name professional trainers to perform live instruction and YouTube videos in an effort to educate the public. Television shows such as "Best Defense," "Personal Defense TV" and "Student of the Gun" all reach out to new and experienced gun owners alike.

Husbands

Alright guys, suck it up because I'm talking to you. Let's say, for whatever reason, your wife has decided she wants to learn to shoot and she wants a gun. Great! Now stop yourself and realize this: You are the last person in the world who should be teaching your wife to shoot. Think about it. In your wife's eyes, you are the man who forgets to buy milk, leaves the toilet seat up and sniffs his T-shirts to see if they are still clean enough to wear. I truly believe Albert Einstein's wife once said, "Some genius you are, you can't even remember to comb your hair."

I have taught thousands of police officers, military personnel and citizens (young and old) to use rifles, pistols and shotguns, but when my wife wanted to get her concealed-carry permit I found someone else to train her. Do

Continued....Help For the New Shooter

yourself a favour - keep the divorce lawyers out of the situation and find a reputable, professional instructor to teach your wife to shoot.

When it comes to what gun, specifically a handgun, to buy for your wife, remember this: The gun is for her. Handing down your old pistol to your wife so you have an excuse to buy a new one is not cool. After your wife has some training and experience, let her pick out her own gun. Buying a new gun and then taking training can be a waste of time and money. Too often, folks will buy a brand-new gun before they get training, only to find out afterward they don't like how the gun feels or operates.

Along the same lines, your favorite gun is not necessarily going to be your wife's favorite. And, ...please stop buying your wives compact .40-caliber pistols. To your lovely wife it's like having a firecracker detonate in her hands with every shot. A 9 mm or .380 ACP pistol that a person enjoys shooting is a far better choice than a sharper-recoiling gun they only tolerate.

I recently had a husband-and-wife team show up for training with two brand-new pistols - a Glock 22 for him and a Glock 23 for her. The

small-statured, inexperienced wife struggled for the entire live-fire portion of the class. She was literally being taught to flinch with every shot. Guys, park your machismo and stop handing your wives and girlfriends hard-kicking blasters. They'll gut it out and shoot the guns to please you, but most won't enjoy the experience, nor will they voluntarily do it again.

Range gurus

We all know the range gurus, the guys who spend more time on the range bragging and talking than they do shooting. They love to regale you with tales of their favorite guns and opinions about the best this or that. It's all well and good, but new shooters don't need to hear war stories and tall tales from the sidelines, they need encouragement.

The second-most intimidating thing for a novice gun owner to do after they've purchased a gun is to go to a public range and shoot it. Whether real or perceived, they feel as though all eyes are upon them, judging them with each shot. Many novice shooters are driven away by arrogant or condescending range gurus. Don't be that guy. Remember, you were the new guy once yourself. Take a second to listen to the new

shooter before you begin to tell them what gear they should have bought. If their gun and gear doesn't work for them, sooner or later they'll figure it out.

The good news is, we are slowly but surely moving back toward gun ownership being a common thing in American households.

Every day, novice shooters and new gun owners are entering the fold. What these folks need is for us to nurture their interest, not overwhelm them with our opinions. The firearm industry is providing products for the new shooter and certified instructors are offering classes to train newcomers. The last piece of the puzzle is you, the experienced gun guy. You are the neighbor, coworker, husband, uncle or friend who can make the difference and welcome the new shooter and gun owner to the fold.

Extracted from:

https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2017/12/31/help-for-the-new-shooter/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0118

Watch this space ...for more interesting firearm snippets

3 Ways To Talk To Parents Who Fear Guns

https://www.nrafamily.org/articles/2017/12/29/3-ways-to-talk-to-parents-who-fear-guns/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=insider&utm_campaign=0118

by Brad Fitzpatrick

29 December 2017

When I brought my newborn daughter home from the hospital, my wife and I received a lot of advice, both solicited and unsolicited, on topics ranging from sleep cycles to feeding to treating diaper rash and colic. Most of the advice was thoughtful, and it helped me wade through those first few exhausting weeks of fatherhood. But one particular directive struck me: A woman that came by the house to give my daughter's cheeks a squeeze, stuck a bent finger in my face, and said, "You need to do something about all those guns. Keep them locked up, at least."

Admittedly, I know precious little about diaper rash or colic, but I know guns. And I could read between the lines when she said keep them locked up, at least. Translation: You really should get rid of your guns because you have a kid.

I grew up in a house with guns. Maybe you did too. If guns were innately dangerous we wouldn't have made it this far in life. But there are those that feel that all guns are dangerous, in large part because the only exposure they have to firearms comes via news outlets that paint all guns and gun owners with a broad, bloody brush. There will come a day when my daughter will climb onto the school bus for the first time and step out into the big world.

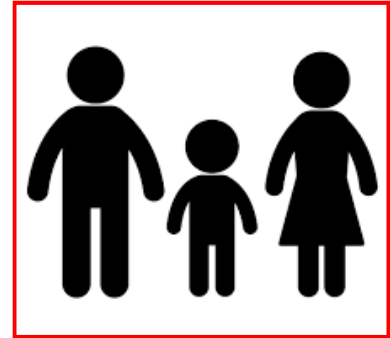
And I know too that she will make friends with kids whose parents don't want their child hanging out with that gun writer. So, how do we handle those parents? How do we help them to understand that just because I own guns does not make me irresponsible? Here are a few key points that you need to keep in mind when talking to parents who don't want their child playing in a house with guns.

1. Find Common Ground:

The parent who refuses to allow their child to come to a house with firearms doesn't want their child to be hurt or killed. Guess what? I am a parent, I have guns, and I don't want to see my child or anyone else's hurt or killed, either. Guns are like automobiles, votes or gasoline and matches in that their use - good or bad - depends on the merit of the individual who controls them. Frankly, there are people with whom my daughter doesn't ride in a car, not because cars are inherently bad, but because I don't trust the driver.

2. Educate:

The first key to dealing with a parent who is anti-gun is not to engage in a war of words but rather to explain to them that the myths perpetuated by anti-gun outlets are not true. Tell them that, as a gun owner and a parent, you are acutely aware of the fact that irresponsible gun handling can lead to injury, but help them understand that groups like the NSSF and NRA are working to help educate people about safe gun handling. There's a widespread notion among anti-gun forces that groups like the NRA are somehow against gun safety, which could not be further from the truth. Tell these parents that gun groups are at the forefront of gun safety, leading the charge toward better



security for firearms and gun education for all. Ask them if they've ever shot a gun and invite them to the range, or invite them to review NRA safety programs designed for kids, like Eddie Eagle.

3. Shoulder the Responsibility:

I don't know your kid. I don't know if they've had any exposure to guns save the endless theatrical violence they witness in television and movies, but I'm certainly not going to allow my guns to reach your child's hands. The responsibility of safe gun handling lies on the shoulders of gun owners, and we need to accept that responsibility. That's a powerful message to advocates of strict gun control; I don't believe that this responsibility lies with the government but rather with the individual, and to preserve that right I intend to take care to see that my guns are safe and secure.

Parents ultimately have the right to allow their child to go or not go into anyone's home. But it needs to be understood that if you don't allow your child to come to my home for fear that there are guns then that is an attitude of ignorance, and it perpetuates the belief that all guns - and all gun owners - are bad.