



The Flyer

Official Newsletter of the
Airfield Shooting Club

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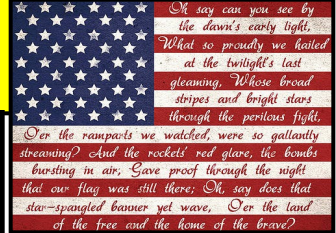
Airfield Shooting Club

at the Airfield 4H Center ~ Wakefield, Virginia

P.O. Box 250, Wakefield, VA 23888



HAPPY 4TH OF JULY!!



It's Summertime!

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ASC Member of the Quarter

By The ASC Board of Directors

Name: Scott Sampson, #762



Scott Sampson is the chief instructor at Airfield Shooting Club and is a certified instructor for Pistol, Rifle, Shotgun and Personal Protection in and Outside the Home, Defensive Handgun, and CCW. He is also a certified Competitive Pistol and Practical Pistol Coach and a NRA Safety Officer.

Not only is Scott a big contributor to the ASC newsletter and is actively involved with the shooter tune-up program, women on target, new member orientation, and many other club initiatives and educational programs; but he is also a member of the ASC board of directors.

ASC Elections

Every year the ASC holds its annual election meeting and breakfast at the Airfield Conference Center. This is a great opportunity to meet fellow members, address club matters, and vote on a new ASC Board of Directors. With all that has happened so far this year, we encourage all members to participate and choose the future leadership of your Club.

Our election and breakfast will be held on Saturday, July 18, 2020 at the Airfield Center's Gray Building dining hall, with breakfast being served at 8:30 a.m. After breakfast, the ASC President and other Board members will address Club matters. We will then hold the election to choose the new ASC Board. All active Members will be eligible to vote.

Breakfast is paid for by the club for all ASC Members in good standing. Please note that family or guests accompanying Members will not be paid for by the Club.



Club Affiliations – What makes sense?

By Scott Sampson, Chief Instructor, #762



Over the last year I have heard from a few folks about their frustration with the NRA during the assault on our 2A rights here in VA. This frustration has shown itself again lately with a few folks asking why do we have to join NRA and Virginia Shooting Sports Association when they didn't see them doing anything. The suggestion has been to join the Virginia Citizen's Defense League (VCDL).

Let me describe the organizations to the best of my ability. Let's start with the NRA. It is a nation (actually world) wide organization that is divided up into two main parts, the Institute for Legislative Action (ILA) and the Foundation.

The ILA is the political arm of the NRA that endorses candidates, provides funds for candidates around the country, meets with the President etc. They have run several programs to include NRA University which supports 2A groups at colleges to try to stem the tide of anti -2A generally found in these areas. They have grass roots efforts in each state. Keep in mind that they may have one person cover 5-10 states. They produce information and speak at clubs (they spoke at my last club because I invited them). The ILA focuses primarily on the nation-wide efforts and typically does not get involved in the local politics.

The Foundation arm of the NRA is the non-profit side of the NRA. It is responsible for helping to fund over 80 different programs from training and education, to hunter services, to women's programs, to range support programs, to the widely

popular Eddie Eagle program which teaches over 500,000 kids a year in VA alone about gun safety. They support police department training and more. They also have the programs like YES which focuses on educating the next generation and helping them get college scholarships. They also provide college scholarships to young competitive shooters. They provide legal funds for land marks cases (like the Heller case). Let's not forget competitions.

The Virginia Shooting Sports Association is the State Version of the NRA. Remember the NRA tends to be more National. The VSSA lobbies for VA. They are involved in the local politics and they do provide education, fund raising events, and competitions like the NRA but on a smaller scale obviously. Their focus has been primarily legislative events. The NRA has levels of NRA clubs. To be a Gold club member, which entitles you to be able to apply for grants, the member must be members of both the NRA and their state level NRA club which in our case is VSSA.

The Virginia Citizens Defense league is a grass roots political action group that focuses on the legislative efforts here in VA. They have been super-active, and their membership has exploded over the last year when they organized the Sanctuary City movement. They continue to rely on volunteers across the state to remain on the front line of every city council. They organized the Lobby day effort at our state's capitol for years, and have done a great job of organizing the base of 2A supporters within the state. They became the face of the 2A group here in VA during this past year.

I recognize the challenges and black eye that the NRA has received lately. I suppose there is always some level of corruption or misuse of funds in any large organization. There is no other organization that comes close to accomplishing what



Club Affiliations—Con't.

the NRA does nationwide, nor the breadth of what it does. To cast them aside at this time will not serve our overall objectives associated with 2A efforts. It would be better to focus on making your voices heard within the organization. Go visit NRA HQ in Fairfax and speak to someone just like you would with your legislator. They have a fantastic museum which is free.

Many people don't have any idea of what organizations are doing unless they happen to run into it. VCDL is perhaps the most communicative with publishing weekly emails, or even daily at times. If you sign up for VSSA notices, they will send you emails about weekly or monthly depending on what's going on. You can sign up for NRA ILA emails and text alerts. Please note that these are only for the political aspects.

I understand and share the frustration some of you have with the troubles with NRA. Keep in mind that many of those issues came about because members inside brought it to light and are trying to change the organization for the better, they are not walking away. This is not the time to throw the baby out with the bath water. Our 2A rights are being attacked every day and will continue. Please consider supporting all these organizations because it will take all of us to man the front lines.

See you on the firing line!

Politics Corner

By Scott Sampson, Chief Instructor, #762

The first step to fixing an issue is knowing about it. Make no mistake, the Presidential candidates, our Governor and the anti 2A legislative folks are not defeated; they are pushing forward and planning for next session. We need to stay informed of what is going on and know how to help. There are several places that you can go and all of them have the ability to sign up for email notifications and in some cases texts.

NRA:

<https://www.nraila.org/sign-up>

VSSA:

<https://www.myvssa.org/advocacy>

VCDL:

<https://vcdl.org>

See you on the firing line!





SIRTS – Keeping Your Skills Up and Having Fun!

By Scott Sampson, Chief Instructor, #762

This review is on Next Level Training’s Shot Indicating Resetting Trigger (SIRT) pistols. You may have read about a SIRT in one of my columns or actually used one in one of my classes. I am a huge fan of these pistols and find them absolutely invaluable as an instructor but also as a shooter.

The SIRT pistols are a not a firearm. They are plastic and metal device that has a laser in it that looks like a real pistol. It however cannot load ammunition, has no barrel or receiver and the slide does not move. This is purely a training device. So we talked about what it isn’t let’s talk about what it is.

The SIRT comes in 3 pistol variations; Glock 17, S&W M&P, and a non-model based one that is a small defensive pistol. It appears they no longer offer the small defensive pistol on their web site. They also offer an AR variant. They have in them two lasers which I will describe later and a magazine.



Figure 1 - Different models of SIRTS



Figure 2 - SIRT Insert for AR

The Glock and S&W variants are true copies of the actual firearms. You can use the same holsters and you can use real magazines to practice reload (without racking the slide). So let’s talk about the actual features.

Each SIRT has a removable magazine. The fake magazine is plastic and is filled with lead strips so it simulates the weight of a fully loaded magazine. You can actually open the magazine and remove some lead to make it lighter if you would like. The magazines are the same size as the real thing and have a cartridge molded at the top of it to be able to place your index finger for indexing the magazine for reloading.



Figure 3 - SIRT Magazines (Glock and S&W)

Many of us, myself included are trigger snobs. I am very particular about my triggers. The SIRT has the ability to adjust the trigger on its models. With a small provided Allen wrench you can adjust not only the break pressure but the amount of prep the trigger has. This allows you to get the trigger pretty close to what you actually have on your gun.

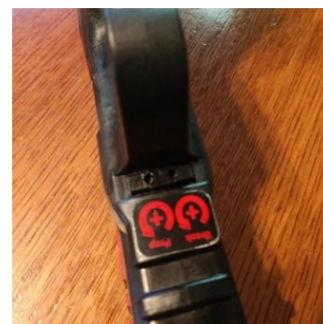


Figure 4 - Trigger adjustment point just forward of trigger guard

SIRTS -Con't

The pistol contains two lasers. One activates during take up and the other activates when the shot breaks. The reason is you have this is to see is to practice multiple shots. You don't want your finger releasing the trigger all the way out only to reset so if you see both lasers go over when you are practicing multiple rapid shots then you know your finger is coming too far forward.



Figure 5 - Openings for two lasers

You can turn off the take up laser with a simple switch located on the top of the barrel. It is recessed so it doesn't interfere with a holster. You can order the SIRT with different combinations of color lasers (Red/Green). This allows you to distinguish between the two, but in practice you really don't need different colors to do that. You can adjust the lasers in



the SIRT so you can adjust the take up laser to a lower point below the shot indicating laser.

The SIRT uses a 123 battery which is located under the slide housing. To replace them you drive out some pins and pop the new battery in. Overall reasonably simple. I have had mine for years and lots of trigger time. The batteries last forever.

My SIRTS get a lot of use and abuse and they have held up fine. I have 8 of them and I have had only one issue with a trigger. I sent it back to Next Level Training and they repaired it and got it back to me. You can also change laser colors after you purchase the SIRT, it will cost you money but not as much as a new SIRT. The customer service has been excellent for me.

SIRTS are cheap. The web site is advertising the pistols range from \$239-439 depending on the model and laser combination. You can get a discount if you are an NRA or USCCA instructor. While this is significant price for training tool, the benefit is significant. I can practice multiple shots using a firearm that is just like the one I normally carry, safely without any concerns of a negligent discharge. I also can use the laser pistol with the multiple training computer programs I have as well as the laser training aides.

Lastly the Next Level Training website has several training programs that you can use to maximize your training using the SIRT. USCCA has also teamed up to offer online training using the SIRT. The point here is using a SIRT will help you improve your shooting and gun handling skills. The SIRTS are rugged, easy to maintain and function well with your existing equipment.

See you on the firing line!



Serious Training Without the Bang!

By Scott Sampson, Chief Instructor, #762

It's clear that COVID-19 has impacted the nation. It impacted ranges around the country as well as ours. While ours was a result of the 4-H Center being closed it still stopped many of us cold from enjoying our favorite past time.

While we hopefully are in the final throws, I am hearing that the next surge may happen later this year. I am praying they are wrong about it, but it is always good to have a plan on how to stay on your game when you can't go to the range.

I know you have heard Dry Fire over and over in the past. I can't overstate the benefit of dry firing. Some may find it however a little boring after a while. Here are some things that you might be able to do to help keep it a little fresh.

1. Purchase a laser cartridge for your handgun. They can run between \$30-80, and insert into the chamber of your firearm so that when you press the trigger and the firing pin goes forward it activates a laser quickly to give you a quick dot. The cartridge doesn't have a rim so you can rack the slide and shoot again without ejecting the laser cartridge. I recommend you have a wooden dowel or pencil that you can insert into the muzzle to push the cartridge out. This gives great feedback of where you are shooting and if it is a smooth trigger press.



2. With the laser cartridge you can then use some of the electronic targets that are interactive. You

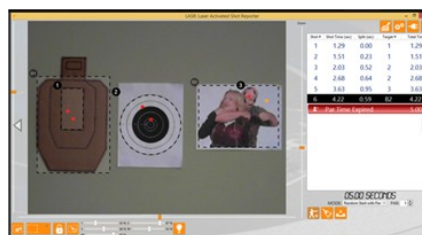
can set these up around the house and have your own shooting arcade. They vary in price but are generally less than \$150 each. You can see how fast your draw is etc.



3. If you get frustrated with having to rack your slide after each trigger press, you might want to consider picking up a SIRT pistol. These are the one of the better training pistols and have online training programs you can take etc. The SIRTs come in a Glock 17 frame and a S&W M&P frame. They also a pocket pistol that doesn't match any current firearm. The SIRTs available at Next Level Training are awesome with removable weighted magazines. They are a little pricey through.



4. You might consider computer training software like LASR. I have this myself, and it is excellent. It allows you to setup your own targets, record your hits, have it time you, etc. There is even an online portion that offers training drills that you can try out or develop your own.



There are other items like Cool fire which actually operates your slide and simulates blowback and recoil if you want to invest in one.



Serious Training without the bang! - Con't

There are tons of options out there that will let you enjoy practicing and help you retain your skills. Please don't look at these options as games, they are not. They are fun, but they can be used to develop a lot of skill without leaving your house.

Another option that has popped up is online interactive training. For example, Mike Seeklander has been experimenting with success and interactive online training class. I am sure others are out there.

Stay safe and please try to maintain those skills!

See you on the firing line!

