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The 5 Day Ultimate Force on Force class was a great success! We had students from across the globe and everyone had a great time and learned a lot. Don't forget to sign up next April for this once a year class! Read Scott's comments below:

On the subject of ammunition expense which has skyrocketed, one can accomplish effective training without massive expenditures of ammunition. Many courses of fire are designed to give a false sense of proficiency due to the fact that they advertise that a copious amount of rounds will be fired during the course. This means that one simply stands and fires limited courses of fire again and again and again. If you want to burn up ammo and a weapon then fine but that is not gunfighting. Gunfighting is problem solving and effective training is running different evolutions over a given period of time. All the essential elements requisite for gunfighting will be experienced throughout different evolutions which is eminently more productive than simply 'hosing' rounds downrange. You can conduct dry practice by yourself for a number of runs and then verify this with one run on live fire. This develops overall proficiency.

[Sniper/Counter Sniper Class - May 29-31- don't miss it!!!](#)

You don't need all match ammo for the sniper class. On our sniper course you can save the match ammunition for zeros and hostage drills and the extended range drills out to 1000 yards and then use standard ball ammunition for all the other drills. This will be close enough to accomplish the task at hand and save quite a bit on the cost of match grade ammunition.

[http://www.internationaltactical.com/class\\_detail.asp?CSID=350](http://www.internationaltactical.com/class_detail.asp?CSID=350)

[Active Shooter - June 26-28 -](#)

This course is designed to familiarize the officer with the dynamic fundamentals necessary to successfully resolve an active shooter situation. We will emphasize team tactics, movement, communications and limitations which may be imposed by exigent circumstances. It is a realistic approach to rapidly assembling and coordinating other team members and/or outside entities into an effective response force. Due to the nature of the active shooter, critical decision skills must be in place prior to such an event. This class is designed expressly for that purpose. There will be live fire in conjunction with simmunitions exercises in order to equip the officers with realistic response mechanisms and tactics necessary to resolving such scenarios.

[http://www.internationaltactical.com/class\\_detail.asp?CSID=336](http://www.internationaltactical.com/class_detail.asp?CSID=336)

**Courses Coming up:**

May 29-31	<b>Sniper/Counter Sniper</b>
June 5-7	<b>Defensive Handgun III</b>
June 6-7	<b>Defensive Handgun I</b>
June 13-14	<b>Couples Rapid Response</b>
June 26-28	<b>Active Shooter- <i>New Class</i></b>



**Class Photo - 5 Day School**



**Officer Rescue - 5 Day School**



**Role Players in 5 day school**



**Advanced Handgun Class Photo- April 2009**

## May-December 2009 Course Schedule

<b>May 29-31</b>	<b>Sniper/Counter Sniper Course</b>
June 5-7	Defensive Handgun III
June 6-7	Defensive Handgun I
June 13-14	Couple's class
June 26-28	Active Shooter - <b>NEW</b>
July 10-12	Advanced Handgun
July 11-12	Defensive Handgun II
July 25-26	Tactical Shotgun
<b>August 2</b>	<b>Private Instruction</b>
<b>August 7-9</b>	<b>Defensive Handgun III</b>
<b>August 8-9</b>	<b>Defensive Handgun I</b>
September 11-13	Advanced Handgun
September 12-13	Defensive Handgun II
October 2-4	Tactical Carbine
October 23-25	Defensive Handgun III
October 24-25	Defensive Handgun I
<b>December 11-13</b>	<b>Advanced Handgun</b>

Additional classes will be posted for September, October and November at a later date

\*Law Enforcement only class

## **The 'Cold Steel' by Scott Reitz**

The recent successful SEAL evolution of the rescue off the coast of Somalia simply underscores the effectiveness of intense training. The shots were of a coordinated effort and accomplished without the knowledge of the pirates. SEALs are fairly well known to most of us and yet a lot of mythology surrounds their activities and capabilities. To state that their training is intense is fairly accurate as is their combined mindset. They work always as a team which translates into the salient fact that they push each other in everything that they do.

Those of you that have attended our sniper courses over the past have experienced the coordinated sniper shot with multiple shooters involved on specific targets. This is not as easy a feat as one might believe it to be. The targets must be coordinated such that each shooter has a designated target and this can be somewhat tricky as suspects alter their positions as well as target attitudes relative to the shooter. The shots must all break in split second timing in order to resolve the situation in real time. Our new moving target system will allow for such a coordinated target engagement at a much higher level of complexity than what was heretofore experienced. It should be interesting as well as insightful for the shooters in all future classes. A lot of tactics went into prepping the shots for these snipers.

What the general public perceives as a daunting challenge was in fact, a lot more complicated than most would ever envision. Ships pitch, yaw and roll which translates into a naval term known as nautical motion. The snipers had to accommodate for both their and the suspect's vessel's nautical motion. Not easy. Combine a night evolution and the problem graduates in complexity. Quite a feat! Perhaps this ability to bring US forces to bear on problem areas will give the pirates something to consider in future endeavors.

The SEALs pulled off a successful evolution despite many odds against it which is precisely why they are SEALs and we should be thankful for them as well as all Special Forces and military members of the U.S. services. This is a great lesson in dedication and professionalism at the very top of the Alpha male food chain. As one military commander of the Civil War once stated "Give them the cold steel boys!"

## Looking Back on the LAPD- Back in my Day

Brett and I were viewing a show that involved heroin addiction the other night. This in turn led me to reminisce about my time on the hype car in Van Nuys division. It took a lot for me to qualify as a court qualified heroin expert and it involve a tremendous amount of study on my own time in order to qualify. Back then (1978 '79) the senior narcotics detectives would sit you down in a room and begin to grill you in all things heroin. Now I had done my studies and in everything that I get into - I tend to go somewhat overboard (just ask Brett on this one.) The detectives started with the softball questions and rolled into the harder ones and they tested me on the same level that one would be tested if one were on the witness stand in court being relentlessly grilled by the opposition. Then they hit me with the term 'kebo' and they all smiled in unison. They thought that they had me. I knew that this was a byproduct of heroin manufacture and I told them so and they looked at one another. This one of those obscure facts that I latter termed to be 'martini knowledge.' I have no idea where I had picked up this tidbit of information but somehow and someway, I had come across it and remarkably I remembered it when they hit me with it. On the grand scale of life 'martini knowledge' serves no one in any way shape or form. Webster's Unabridged Dictionary defines it as; simply knowledge that one may use to impress or enlighten and it is knowledge that is more suited to a discussion over a martini than of relevance to anything in particular! Look it up.

Heroin addiction is powerful stuff and I have written before that the life style that accompanies heroin addicts is extremely destructive. Synthetic 'China White' came on the scene back then and addicts started to turn up dead everywhere. This stuff was about 100 times more potent than heroin and the dealers simply could not 'step on it' to prevent the overdoses. I have a photo from those days of two hypes, both dead, one on top of the other, both slumped over a toilet in a seedy motel off Sepulveda Boulevard and both still had spikes (hypodermics) in their arms. The effects were that instantaneous. Deals were made in heroin balloons rolled up tight that could easily be ingested when the police jammed them. Sometimes these balloons gave way and the addict died right there on the spot. It was a rather unglamorous addiction. All the hypes knew each other. It was an underground life that took place right amongst all the other life on the streets. Some of these addicts had once been bankers, military officers, professionals and mothers that had simply slipped away from life into the abyss. As for myself I was fascinated by the whole process. The drive to 'get-down' was so powerful that the addicts forsook all other things in life for the fix. There is a movie with Al Pacino 'Panic in Needle Park' which is a realistic portrayal of the life of the addict. It is worth watching if you want a taste of what such a life would entail.

My partner, Ray Lyons and I would hook up about two to four hypes and then return to the station for all the processing. We cruised all the spots, the motels, alleys and other places that we knew the hypes worked and they got to know us and in turn, we them. Hypes generally are non-violent types especially when they're 'down' as opiates tend to deaden the system. In fact they would often 'nod-off' when we hooked them up and later when we interviewed them. They were still somewhat conscious of most things going on around them even when they 'nodded-off' and this never ceased to impress me. You could ask a question, they would 'nod-off' and then several minutes later, they would come to and answer the question as if there had never been a pause in the conversation. We conducted the 'ski's' which we termed the schematics of the hypes arms and the fresh and previous injection sites on the body. We took them into a totally darkened room and checked their pupillary dilation. A 'down' hype would only have about two to three mm of pupil dilation in a total dark condition whereas an individual absent the effect of an opiate derivative would be double that or more. We took photos with a 'hype camera' that was nothing more than a Polaroid camera with an extension that had pre-focused the lens to clearly illuminate the injection site. Once we put all the papers and photos and statements together, we booked them and went right back out for more bodies. If Ray and I booked about thirty righteous hypes then the burglaries in the area dropped off dramatically. That was their main source of income and the residents never knew they were there. I can still spot a righteous hype to this very day. As Ray Lyons taught me and, I soon learned, there was look to them that only a hype expert would ping on in a New York second. This was always a rather ambiguous feeling to relate in court as that was always your main source of activity when you stopped them for objective symptoms. Their speech and mannerisms were slow and deliberate and this can be a rather hard and tricky observation to relate to a jury. Pretty much it is a subjective sort of feeling although the observable symptoms themselves are objective. Even seasoned street cops did not always see what we saw and that was precisely what made us such an effective team. Ray Lyons passed away some years ago at a rather early age and I miss him. He was the best street cop for real street knowledge that I ever knew and by far, the best hype expert I would ever know or work with. It was quite an experience.