

...what's in your... **FRONT SIGHT**

By Kat Rowoldt

My husband and I, along with some friends, just returned from an incredible experience at Front Sight Firearms Training Institute in Nevada.

It was great to escape the pressures of the final days of the campaign, the news barrage with its daily grind, and simply get off the unending communication grid for the first time in twenty-two years of marriage. Who would have ever guessed a week-long intensive training with guns in the desert would be a great vacation? We are already planning our return trip in a few months.



While both of us were really newbies to this type of firearms training, we were both amazed at the importance of what we were learning and returned home with a passion to see more and more people receive this type of training. This is not your backyard target shooting match but drilling over and over again to perfect your skills and confidence, so you can handle an actual active shooter or hostage situation if the need arises. All of our training was interlaced with knowledge of our Constitution, situational encounters and how to think it through ahead of time. While we all passed and were certified through the first rung of this type of training, there are more and more levels to go.

Our class was comprised of multiple generations. The youngest was fourteen years of age. He won the final shooting challenge with his speed and accuracy, and the oldest we met at the facility was eighty-six. I think the oldest in our class was seventy-seven. Our group/range had thirty-four students in it. There were five hundred students the first couple of days on the various ranges and then it thinned out. It operates seven days a week, fifty-two weeks a year. It was a unique situation to watch older generations working with their adult children or grandchildren, passing on the importance of being able to protect yourself and others.

While the experience was powerful, the tragic reality is the ever-growing need of this type of training. More citizens need to obtain their LTC (License to Carry) and then get professionally trained. It's a reality check to return home and in a matter of a few days hear the news from Thousand Oaks, California. Even worse was finding out off-duty officers were not allowed to have their guns at the night club. California doesn't like guns. When will people stop buying the lie

that guns are the problem. A gun in the hand of a good guy when something goes very wrong saves lives.

None of us were raised in the Wild Wild West, but our society is beginning to require us to bear arms to protect our loved ones everywhere we go. It doesn't feel natural to add a gun to your wardrobe, and it's easier to not do it. The unforgivable nightmare is to need it and realize you chose not to carry that day.



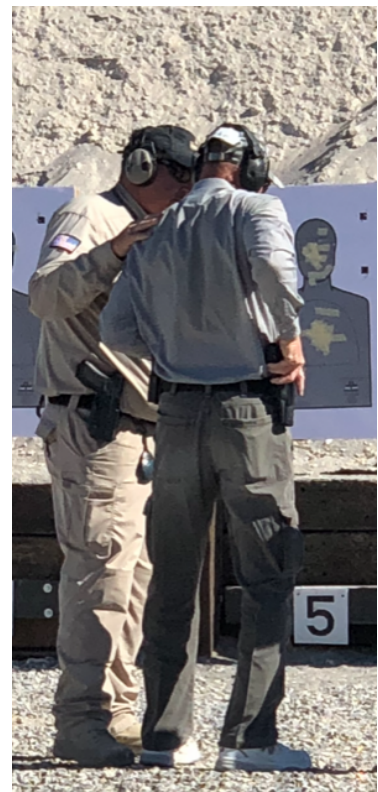
This is the motley crew who made up our range. We had a chiropractor, home school student, romance novelist, an equestrian, insurance agent, several retirees, etc. Our instructors were the best. We had three with us from day one, with a fourth who joined us on day three and four. Each brought their own personal insight and skills to help each of us individually perfect ours. It was tough. It was overwhelming. It was a real challenge!

As you can tell from the taping job on the target (seen to the right), we were all pretty good shots to start with. This was one of the instructors working with my husband on technique. Amazing, the things they would spot and point out to each of us.



After we honed our skills, then the bad guys showed up (see the targets to the left) and challenged us to the draw. If you are interested in more information, please feel free to contact me. We are putting a group together for a return trip in the spring. We highly recommend this training.

Until next time....



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