

# 21<sup>st</sup> Annual TCHA Conference

## Class Descriptions and Instructor Bios

**\*NRA Basic Range Safety Officer Course\*\***, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – Develops NRA Certified Range Safety Officers with the knowledge, skills, and attitude essential to organizing, conducting, and supervising safe shooting activities and range operations.

Range Safety Officer candidates (RSO) will learn the roles and responsibilities of an RSO, Range Standard Operating Procedures (SPOs), range inspection, range rules, range briefings, emergency procedures, and firearm stoppages and malfunctions. Each Range Safety Officer Candidate will receive an RSO Student Study Guide, a Basic Firearm Training Program brochure, an NRA Gun Safety Rules brochure, and a Course Evaluation form.

**\*Note:** This course requires pre-registration and an additional \$30.00 fee to cover the cost of the training materials.

**The 85th Legislature\*\***, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – The 85th Texas Legislature met for 140 days in 2017. Out of 144 gun-related bills, 12 passed and 2 were amended into other legislation. How do these 14 new laws affect licensed carry, firearm possession, applying for a license to carry, schools, hunting, carrying knives, and interact with potential Federal legislation?

***Training That Wins: Being Truly Prepared for Armed Self-Defense\*\****, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – A gun is a very popular choice as a tool for self-defense, and for good reason. But aside from owning the gun, what skills should you develop to be fully prepared to use it at a moment's notice? How can you know you are truly ready to be successful against a criminal attack? During this 45-minute seminar, you'll find the answers to these questions and many others. You'll gain valuable insight into the following self-defense related topics:

- The prevalence (and cost) of poorly-trained gun owners
- The five levels of competence and how they apply to firearms skills
- The four types of defensive firearm skills and how they relate to each other
- Why understanding the difference between training and practice helps you do both better
- How some practice actually hampers your ability to defend yourself
- Evaluating whether a technique is appropriate for self-defense
- The two most common training mistakes made by both students and instructors

**\*Range Day**, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> (PM Shoot) and Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (AM Shoot) – During the three-hour range session, you will focus on developing and improving an essential set of defensive techniques that ensure you can prevail in a self-defense shooting. Through a series of demonstrations, dry practice, and shooting exercises, you will deepen your understanding and abilities on the following topics:

- The Two Key Elements of Defensive Marksmanship
- Improving Your Trigger Control
- Balancing Speed and Accuracy Under Defensive Conditions
- Consistently Presenting From The Holster

- Primary and Alternate Shot-Placement Strategies
- Movement to Evade an Incoming Attack

The session will conclude with two fun and challenging exercises that will test your speed, accuracy, and consistency.

***\*Note: Students may attend both sessions; however, each session will be \$20.00. Participation in each session will be limited to the first 20 paid attendees.***

Equipment required for range day activities:

- Reliable, modern semi-automatic pistol or revolver chambered in 9mm or larger. Tiny pocket pistols or .22s are not suitable for this class, nor are antique or cheap surplus pistols such as Makarovs. If you have questions about a particular pistol, please contact Guncraft at [info@guncrafttraining.com](mailto:info@guncrafttraining.com).
- Minimum of 150 rounds of ammunition (per session). Factory ammunition is preferred but high quality reloaded ammunition is acceptable if you loaded it. Do not bring reloaded ammunition loaded by someone else as there is no way to assure safety and quality. Revolver shooters will need at least two speed loaders and semi-auto shooters will need three magazines.
- A good quality, strong side belt holster on a sturdy belt is required. The holster must remain open and not flatten when the gun is withdrawn. The gun's trigger guard must be completely covered when in the holster. A Kydex or reinforced leather holster is recommended. No Serpa holsters, cross-draw, shoulder holsters or inside the waistband holsters will be allowed. Appendix carry holsters are not suitable.
- Speed loader or magazine pouches are recommended to hold spare ammunition.
- Suitable outdoor clothing and comfortable shoes, as well as a brimmed cap.
- Hearing protection. Ear muffs or ear plugs are suitable. Electronic, amplified hearing muffs or plugs are recommended.
- Eye protection with side protection.
- Water will be available, but bring your Gatorade or other drink if you like.

**➤Parts of the road at the range are rough and could pose a problem for low clearance vehicles. Please plan accordingly.◀**

**Situational Awareness & Making a Window\*\***, Friday, April 6<sup>th</sup> – The first rule of staying safe is never allowing yourself to be surprised. This is accomplished by always being aware of what is going on around you and seeing any threat before it sees you. This is true whether you are armed or unarmed. Identifying a threat a few seconds before you are attacked will give you time to decide how to deal with it before it deals with you. Chris Bird will provide two real-life examples, one where a woman in her 60s prevented a home invasion by being aware of a potential threat and having a plan to deal with it. The other is a tragic case where a mother was unaware of a threat that cost her her life and those of her two daughters. Chris will talk about what to look for whether you are in a car, in a restaurant or just walking down the street. Hint: Don't let your cell phone rule your life. He will also discuss Jeff Cooper's color codes and other ways to train yourself how to be more aware of your surroundings.

Bill Davison will continue the process, talking about what to do after you have identified a threat. Have a plan but be sure to realize that the plan will almost certainly have to be adapted to

changing circumstances. He will talk about the mindset needed to fight and survive as well as talking to confuse your attacker. He will discuss “making a window” to give you more time to initiate your plan to counter attack. He will provide some examples. Bill will emphasize the importance of movement and distance.

**Medic First Aid CarePlus\*\***, Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – This four hour certification course will be covering:

- Adult, Child, and Infant Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Automated External Defibrillators (AED)
- Choking
- Control of Bleeding
- Managing Shock
- Stroke
- Pain, Severe Pressure, or Chest Discomfort

**Interacting with Law Enforcement after a Shooting Incident\*\***, Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – This course covers:

- Actions to take immediately after a threat is neutralized.
- Information to relay to emergency operator if you are the caller.
- What is expected of you and your demeanor upon arrival of law enforcement?
- Actions taken by law enforcement at the scene.
- What to expect in interview with law enforcement.
- Aftermath.....

**Virtual Tactical Academy\*\***, Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> - Have you ever wondered how as a LTC holder you would do in a real life event? Well at TCHA's conference this year you can. The Virtual Tactical Academy and Austin Davis will be hosting a Saturday session with state-of-the-art VR equipment that will allow you to experience a wide variety of real life scenarios in a safe environment. To see a sample of the type of training you will be experiencing, check out the following YouTube video: <https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=-UHoHcpA0Js&feature=youtu.be>.

**Defensive Tactics for the LTC\*\***, Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup> – You take great comfort in your trusty sidearm. You invested significant money in your choice of gun, ammunition, accessories, training, licensing, range memberships, blah blah, etc. What will you do when I walk up and simply take it away from you; or try? Maybe you'll have a fighting chance of keeping that there smoke wagon after taking this 90 minute class.

[Classes identified with double \*\* is a continuing education (CE) class and participants completing each class will be awarded a certificate of completion. LTC licensed conference attendees who complete four of the CE classes on this year's schedule will be awarded an Intermediate (if they were not presented with one at a previous conference), Advanced (if they hold an Intermediate certificate) or Master (if they hold an Advanced certificate) TCHA certification. It will be each participant's responsibility to ensure that they identify that they are a LTC holder and sign the roster for each class attended in order to receive credit.]

## About the Instructors:

**First Sergeant Richard Buchfink, Jr., USA, Retired** graduated from Union High school in 1991 while living in Tulsa, OK, and enlisted in the U.S. Army in June 1992. He attended Basic Combat Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri and Advance Individual Training at Fort Bliss, Texas completing the Chaparral course. From 1993 to 2013, First Sergeant Buchfink served in many leadership positions as an Air Defense Artillery Soldier and Senior enlisted advisor for Space and Missile Defense Command.

After 21 years, First Sergeant Buchfink retired as a highly decorated Soldier. He is passionate about properly training others in handling firearms. His background as an Expert Marksman and Non-Commissioned Officer serves him well as a National Rifle Association Training Counselor and Instructor, focused on safety, education and skill perfection. First Sergeant Buchfink is the owner of [Bronze Star Shooting](#) in Weatherford, Texas, which specializes in many formal firearms training courses.

**Larry Arnold** has been shooting since he was a Boy Scout. In addition to being a Texas license to carry instructor, he holds certification as a NRA Training Counselor, Texas Hunter Education Master Instructor and Becoming an Outdoors Woman Instructor. His military service includes four years active duty and sixteen years in the reserves as an infantry officer. Larry's CHL PowerPoint won a first place award in a national communications contest in 1999, and his pro-gun novel, "The Mark of Abel" has been published by Zumaya Publications. As a writer and desktop publisher he has won many state and national awards in writing and communications contests, including several for the TCHA website. Larry is on the TCHA Board of Directors and acts as the legislative director for the association. He has also published a number of newsletters for a variety of organizations. He is married, and has two grown daughters, a grandson and a granddaughter. Visit him at <http://www.talonsite.com>.

**Aaron Marshall** has two combat deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan and is currently a captain in the US Army Reserve. Aaron has trained with multiple weapons systems, from handguns to grenade launchers and heavy machine guns. He has been a firearms instructor, in both military and civilian contexts, for over 12 years. Aaron is the Executive Administrator for Guncraft Training Academy.

**Jamie LaBarbera** is a former police officer for the Fremont and Oakland police departments. He was also a senior training specialist for the California Motorcycle Training Program, and is a licensed private investigator. He is a POST-certified and NRA Law Enforcement certified firearms instructor. He is the Training Coordinator for Guncraft Training Academy.

**Chris Bird**, a former Texas Concealed Handgun Association president, was a commissioned officer in the Royal Military Police of the British Army in the 1960's. Chris has loved shooting handguns and has participated in national competitions. As a journalist at the San Antonio Express, he was assigned to cover crime and law enforcement stories. He is a known author about concealed handguns and authored and published *The Concealed Handgun Manual*. He also wrote *Thank God I Had a Gun*. Chris holds membership in the Texas State Rifle Association and the National Rifle Association.

**Bill Davidson** has over 20 years of firearms experience- 14 years of which was with the British Special Forces. His career began with the Royal Marines and he finished his service as an instructor for the British Special Forces. During this time, he was instrumental in developing the firearms training programs for the Special Forces in the United Kingdom and the United States

of America. He has instructed worldwide and has been featured in Elite Special Forces documentaries. After Leaving the Armed Forces he formed a company in England of former special forces personnel specializing in VIP protection of heads of state and ruling families, as well as continuing to instruct law enforcement worldwide, where his expertise is highly respected.

**Stephen Bennett** is a retired U. S. Marine. After retirement from the U.S. Marine Corps he was a college teacher of computer science, computer systems, network engineering, business leadership, and marketing for twenty-two years. After retiring from teaching he became a contractor to the U. S. Army for on-line education and a curriculum developer for digital combat systems. He founded National Personal Defense Academy in 2008 for the purpose of teaching NRA courses and Texas Concealed Handgun Licensing (now LTC). He is a certified OSHA Safety Trainer and a Medic First Aid Instructor.

**Sheriff Mike Griffis** was born and raised in Odessa, Ector County, Texas, with a population of approximately 160,000. He went to "Friday Night Lights" famed, Permian High School and graduated Odessa College Law Enforcement Academy in November 1988. In May 1989, Sheriff Griffis became a member of the Ector County Sheriff's Office Reserve Unit. He was elected Constable in 1992 and served two years before becoming a full time deputy with the Ector County Sheriff's Office (ECSO). During his tenure with ECSO, Sheriff Griffis has been a patrol deputy, investigator, patrol Sgt., patrol Lt. Inspector (3<sup>rd</sup> in command of the ECSO). He was elected Sheriff of Ector County in 2016, and has served as Sheriff since January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Sheriff Griffis is an advocate of good citizens arming themselves.

**Larry Bloomquist** is a Board Certified Criminal Defense attorney, who has over ten years of experience. Mr. Bloomquist is a former Assistant District Attorney and prosecutor. He was nationally recognized by the National Association of Prosecuting Coordinators for work involving intoxicated drivers. He has tried over one hundred jury trials, including many high-profile murders, sex crimes, and gang related crimes.

Born in Denver, Colorado he grew up in Wyoming. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Westminster College of Salt Lake City, Utah. He was commissioned as an officer in the United States Army. After leaving the Army, Mr. Bloomquist attended the University Of Wyoming College Of Law, in Laramie Wyoming. After passing the Texas bar examination and becoming a licensed attorney, Mr. Bloomquist went to work at the Law Offices of Gary Green in Austin, Texas representing Texans in civil matters. He then became a prosecutor. Mr. Bloomquist has served as an Assistant District Attorney for Caldwell County in Lockhart, Texas, an Assistant County Attorney for Guadalupe County in Seguin, Texas, as an Assistant District Attorney for Hays County in San Marcos, Texas as well as the 1st Assistant District Attorney for Guadalupe, Gonzales and Lavaca Counties. In 2011 The Law Office of Larry Dean Bloomquist was founded in San Antonio, Texas with the goal of providing the best defense to ordinary people charged with serious crimes.

**Cris Anderson** was a captain with 29 years tenure with San Antonio Police Department (Retired July 2016). He commanded the Special Investigations Section from 2012-2015; was the Night Chief from 2008-2012 and commanded Patrol Operations, Tactical Special Operations, and Emergency Operations Sections from 2003-2008. Capt. Anderson was a member of the SWAT, Gang, and Street Crimes Apprehension Teams as an operator, supervisor and commander. He was San Antonio Police Officer-of-The-Year six times. Capt. Anderson is a Certified Operations Section Chief and Incident Commander – National Incident Command Systems (NIMS); Advanced Instructor for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security

and TCOLE; and Adjunct Instructor for Sam Houston State University (INCOSIT), San Antonio Office of Emergency Management, Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG), DHS Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP). He is currently the Director of the Law Enforcement Division of Texas and U.S. Law Shield.

**Austin Davis** is a former Police Officer with over 20 years as a law enforcement trainer, as well as a former professional comedian. As owner and CEO of DavisSeminars.com, Kangaroo Carry, LLC, and Virtual Tactical Academy, he has instructed more than 2500 crime prevention seminars and observed over 800 students in 10's of thousands of virtual reality use of force scenarios. Mr. Davis is currently licensed as a Texas LTC instructor and NRA instructor. He serves on the board of directors for the Texas Concealed Handgun Association and a National Consultant of Training and Education for "A Girl & A Gun". Mr. Davis is also certified as a Virtual Reality Use of Force Master Operator/Instructor through TI and Laser Shot and a Low Light Instructor, Levels I & II, through the SureFire Institute.

**Ken Lewis** is a Range Master, Firearms Instructor, NRA Training Counselor, NRA/USA Shooting Shotgun Coach, Training and Range Consultant, a college professor with active security, military and law enforcement experience, and formerly a National Shooting Sports Foundation Range Action Specialist. His experience includes emergency management and disaster response, and working with numerous employers and enterprise-level corporate customers to manage and minimize risk through the application of periodic assessments, intelligence, and threat management techniques. After retiring from 24 years in the US Air Force, and prior to joining the National Protective team, he was the Range Program Manager at UXB International Inc. and Concept Planner with AMEC Earth and Environmental. Mr. Lewis is the principle operational adviser in development of RATPAC™. He has held leadership and management doctrine positions, and worked a broad range of specialties throughout his career, e.g. communication systems, facility maintenance, law enforcement/security, Emergency Service Teams (SWAT), small arms training and repair, and instructing/teaching intellectual and mechanical skills. Mr. Lewis has extensive experience in project and program management. Noted speaker, writer and an Eagle Scout, he is a member of the NRA-Life, TCHA-Life, TSRA, IALEFI, ILEETA, and NSSF. He holds an A.A. in Security Administration from the Community College of the Air Force, an A.A. in Business Management from Wayland Baptist University, a B.S. in Occupational Education from Wayland Baptist University, and a Master of Business Administration from Our Lady of the Lake University.