

EAGA Business Builder

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Today's speaker was Michael Johnson—Shockwave Defense



Shockwave Defense offers a very wide variety of training regarding various aspects of self defense. Shockwave's goal is to provide clients with "The ability to protect what you love." Their courses are tailored to provide knowledge, skills, techniques and, possibly most important, a mental attitude of knowing and understanding your capabilities. For today's presentation Mr. Johnson brought along some of the tools and devices that he and his staff use for weapons training. Primarily firearms related items today, although he did include a short demonstration of a tool they use when practicing knife training drills. Using not-actual

weapons for blade type training, usually allows the students to become a little lax. After all, the 'standard' simulation tools (fake knives) don't offer the actual fear of being harmed. Michael's device overcomes that limitation and it gives the victim a more realistic sensation of being cut. That serves to refocus the student's attention, and instill a definite desire to avoid the blade. Lou Rodges, a reluctant volunteer, can tell you that getting hit with a swipe of the training knife, gives the quite real sensation of being cut. Michael's firearm devices were interesting as well. All of the demonstration guns have been modified to make them incapable of firing an actual round, and each device has been specifically modified to emphasize a different piece of the overall firearms education. One simulated the actual recoil of a pistol; another one provided the discharge path of spent casings; another demonstrated the sound made by firing a real pistol; and others used little balls or a laser beam to provide visual perspective of where the bullet would impact. Mr. Johnson also allowed interested members to use his \$27,000 (low end version) SimRange simulation system. At first sight, it looks like an expensive arcade game, with virtual moving targets that clank when properly hit by the beam of a laser gun. Well the system is very much more than that. No matter how expensive, or sophisticated the machinery, one's initial attraction is still from the 'little kid perspective' of it being a fun game of skill and entertainment. But, then the participant's mental state changes. It moves from perceiving the activity as a playful challenge, to an understanding that the sophisticated technology can insert you into realistic surroundings with on screen visuals that mimic real life situations. Then it all becomes more serious. The computers can display video of real events in real places, providing the participant with real appearing scenarios - along with the immediate answers to many of the what-if questions regarding specific actions taken. This system has been used in training of law enforcement and military personnel, as well as civilians. As noted earlier, the primary goal of Shockwave Defense is to provide education that results in knowledge, skills and an understanding of personal capabilities. Michael emphasizes that the best way to get out of a dangerous situation, is to not be in the situation in the first place. Remain aware; avoid potentially dangerous situations, when possible; use logic to resolve existing problems or to get out of hazardous circumstances. But well before any dangerous situation happens, get trained on how to respond and what actions to take should all the aforementioned efforts fail. Discovering that training would have been helpful—when you are already in the situation—is not desirable at all. Michael and his staff offer many opportunities to become educated about what to do, and how to do it. They offer avoidance training; hand-to-hand combat training; firearm safety; techniques for using many household items for self defense (cups; knives; wire; utensils; and lots of other items you never thought of using); car-jacking situations; underwater fighting ...for those that plan to move to the coast, or just go swimming in a sketchy part of the big city. Michael Johnson has a tremendous amount of knowledge and personal experience; He has many impressive credentials and a very positive reputation of being a great trainer; He has a mental attitude that lets him know he can overcome most any adverse situation. Hopefully none of us will have to participate in a life threatening situation. However, the vast majority don't have a crystal ball, and Google Future Search will not be out of beta testing for quite awhile, so it would probably be advisable to think ahead about what you would do if you were thrust into a problem situation, the resolution of which required some sort of physical action or use of violence on your part. Michael and his staff can provide information, training and encouragement, but it requires that you ask. Contact Michael at 505-544-3888 if you want to arrange for a visit of their facilities; get a list of courses; participate in the 3 hour EAGA evening training classes that are held every three months; or find out what other opportunities are available. Lou Rodges has participated in Shockwave training in the past, but a most helpful thing he learned at this morning's meeting: If Michael Johnson asks for a volunteer, use the avoidance technique of saying "I Am Not Here".

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Business Leads:

None noted today

Reciprocity:

Thank you to Stan Byers. His referral resulted in our company providing a new roof for the customer.

- Bill Elliot—AAA Roofing

◆ Second announcement of two prospective new members:

Moji Studios

Representative: Paul Jew

Category: Photography and Cinematography Company

Sponsor: Mark Tobiassen

New York Life

Representative: Adam Lee Tafoya

Category: Life Insurance

Sponsors: Michael Edwards; Klint Hall

If you have an objection to either of these companies becoming a member, or if you have any information that you feel should be considered during the application review process, please contact Committee Chairman, Jack Zipper, (jdzipper@comcast.net - 505-259-5959), as soon as possible.

- ◆ The EAGA Holiday party has been set. It will take place at Hotel Albuquerque on Friday, December 3rd. Sign up sheets will be available at our meetings in November, and more details will be provided as we get closer to the event.
- ◆ As you can see by the blank spaces in the schedule below, we are in need of speakers for most of our upcoming breakfast meetings. Take the opportunity to tell 60 or 70 interested gentlemen about your business, and what you can do for them. The more in depth business information you can provide, the better the possibility that one of our members discovers that they can use your services, or refer someone that can. If you have a little known expertise from experiences in a past life, take a meeting to tell us about those as well. Every one of our members is very intelligent in their own right, but most are also interested in discovering or learning something new.

Badge Board Greeters

Oct 25th	Lou Rodges—Retriever Merchant Solutions
Nov 1st	Scott Lardner—Rocky Mountain Stone
Nov 8th	Manny Corrales—Vigilant Security Services
Nov 15th	
Nov 22nd	

Upcoming Speakers

Oct 25th	Nick Minetos—PEO Emperor
Nov 1st	
Nov 8th	
Nov 15th	Jim Asperger—Crest Mechanical
Nov 22nd	