

MCSA NEWS

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PONDERINGS

by Bill Zeigler

A recent study says that 80 percent of deaths in the US due to CV (corona virus) are from people who are 65 or older. If you are in a rest home or other such type of facility, your odds of surviving CV are even worse. Medical complications from other medical issues of a patient also increase the odds of not surviving. More total deaths for people over 95 years of age than people under 60 years of age. Good news if you are younger than 65 you have a great chance of not dying from CV. Bad news is that if you are young, keeping your employment may be a much larger concern. Ask yourself how many people do you know who have contracted CV and how many people do you know who have lost their jobs or are not "allowed" to work?? I'm guessing the latter is the winner. Of course, the good news is that most of the unemployed are receiving large unemployment checks from the Feds and Washington State. In many cases, the amount exceeds what they were making when working, so there might not be a great incentive to go back to work until the Fed benefits stop coming. Bad news is that Washington State is in a very precarious financial position with large benefits being paid out and reduced revenues coming in.

The December cough you had might have been CV. The Wuhan virus had its origins in early November in China. Basic symptoms of CV include fever, cough and shortness of breath, but may differ from person to person.

Mason County may be "allowed" to move to Phase 2 on June 1st, which is good for restaurants, barbers and nail salons but not good enough for indoor "recreation, which apparently is how the MCSA range is categorized. Some indoor ranges have already opened in defiance of the Governor. MCSA lost several income streams including raffle, Oyster Fest, Shrimp Fest and Matlock shooting booth activities, the evening shooting events and new member joining's.

Some sources say masks are essential to guard against CV, but some studies say masks are about 5% effective. Other sources now say you are unlikely to get CV from surfaces, such as tables and counters. I'm pretty sure the "experts" are not really sure about this virus. September/October may or may not be a resurgence of the virus.

From The Editor: THANK YOU to those who have been faithfully providing material for the newsletter. You make me look good and I love ya for it. I'd love to hear from the rest of you...

Contact me at: atozdals@q.com



The following link leads to the page where you can sign up for alerts regarding proposed 2A legislation in Washington state. This is a source of information on proposed legislation and is for educational purposes only.

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

NRA Women Website

Since NRA's *Women's Outlook* magazine was discontinued several years ago, many have forwarded requests from members for more information geared towards women. The NRA Women website is dedicated to content about firearms from the female perspective and went live April 16.

NRA Women includes articles, featured stories and reviews about concealed carry, gear, hunting, and more! Watch videos with tips and tactics and browse information on how to become involved with NRA programs such as Refuse to Be a Victim, Eddie Eagle Gun Safe Program and NRA School Shield.

The site is not only a valuable resource for women signing up as NRA members for the first time, but for all potential members. Every NRA member has a mother, sister, friend or significant other who can benefit from visiting www.nrawomen.com. NRA Women is also building a community on social media so make sure to visit and follow their social media platforms.

Consider joining the

You can follow the *Affiliations and Links* tab on the MCSA home page to a direct NRA link.

MCSA gets a contribution when you join or renew using our homepage link.



Gun sales amid pandemic spike 71% in April

Go to original article for more information and links:

www.foxbusiness.com/lifestyle/gun-sales-coronavirus-spiked-april

Gun sales in April spiked by more than 70 percent from the previous year, with the purchase of more than 1.7 million firearms as concerns related to the novel coronavirus continued, recently released statistics show.

An estimated 1,797,910 guns were sold in April 2020 – a 71.3 percent increase from April 2019. March saw an even higher surge in sales, with 2,583,238 firearms sold – or 85.3 percent more than the previous year, according to data released late Monday by Small Arms Analytics and Forecasting.

SAAF data also indicated a surge in handgun over long-gun purchases, a group spokesperson said.

Mark Oliva, a spokesperson for the National Shooting Sports Foundation, which represents gunmakers, said the NSSF had reached similar figures, though slightly lower at 69.1 percent. In a statement to FOX Business, he said the numbers showed, "the strongest April on record."

"This shows us there is continued appetite among Americans to be able to provide for their own safety during times of uncertainty. These are buyers who have witnessed their governments empty prisons... Police departments are stretched beyond capacity in many cases. Law-abiding Americans recognize this and are exercising their right to own a gun and defend themselves and their loved ones."

The New York Post previously reported an increase in the number of people hunting as Americans responded to reports of possible food shortages.

Also announced Monday were the FBI's firearm background check numbers, which showed 2.9 million checks for last month. The week of April 13-19 is now among the top 10 highest weeks since the system was tracked in November 1998. During that week in April, the FBI conducted 766,739 checks.

The FBI's monthly background check figures, while a key barometer of gun sales, also incorporate checks for firearm permits that are required in some states. Each background check also could be for the sale of more than one gun.

As fears over the pandemic began ramping up and states began issuing stay-at-home directives, long lines were seen snaking outside of some gun dealers and shelves inside emptied of ammunition. It's played out amid a debate over whether gun shops should be considered "essential" businesses that should remain open. Fears gun shops would be closed and that economic downturn would lead to high crime and safety concerns have helped fuel the run on firearms.

Oliva previously told FOX Business that during a time of extreme uncertainty, "Americans want to know they can provide for their own safety and the safety of their loved ones."

Gun sales amid pandemic continued...

"Our rights don't end during a pandemic," he said. "In fact, the need for responsible and law-abiding adults to exercise their rights is magnified."

The pandemic has also inflamed tensions between gun-control supporters and Second Amendment advocates. Pro-gun groups have said the sales of firearms underscore that Americans ardently support the Second Amendment. In contrast, gun control activists have said the gun lobby is fueling fears to increase profits and that more firearms in circulation will lead to increases in gun violence.

Gun sales are likely also propelled by the historic highs that occur during presidential election years as gun owners worry that a new crop of elected officials will lead to gun control measures.

Mason County Sportsman's Association

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Basics of Binoculars

by Fred Nachbar

In 1609 a Dutch eyeglasses maker, Hans Lippershey experimented with placing lenses in front of one another thereby inventing the first telescope. Shortly thereafter Galileo made his own telescope and proved the sun was, at that time, the center of the universe and not the earth.

In 1854 Ignacio Porro patented the Porro prism system widely used today. This system was not considered much of a success during his lifetime possibly due to difficulties of prism alignment at that time.

Before we get into the workings of binoculars there are a couple of set rules of physics that you should know.

1. The greater the diameter of the objective lens for any given magnification the brighter the image. This is called LIGHT GATHERING POWER. It is the most important factor in

Basics of Binoculars continued...

binoculars, telescopes, cameras, etc. I.E. a 50mm objective lens gathers more light than a 35 mm objective lens.

2. The EXIT PUPIL or eye piece needs to be of sufficient diameter for the eye to use most if not all of the light gathered by the objective lens.

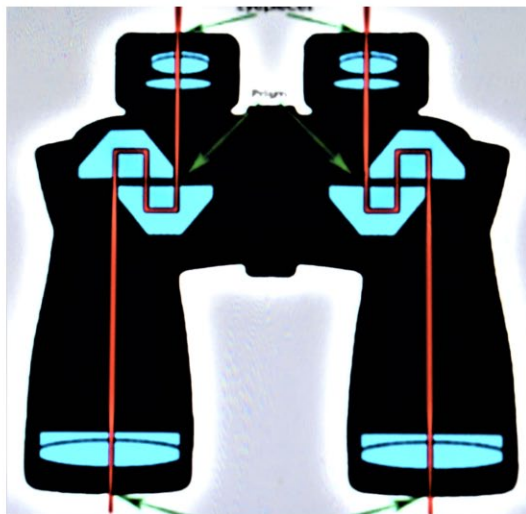
Why prisms? There are two reasons:

1. To rectify the image. The lenses in binoculars produce an image that is upside down. The prism changes this to having the image the way you see it with the naked eye.
2. To provide a longer focal length. In straight tube telescopes (rifle scopes, spotting scopes, field glasses, opera glasses) it is necessary to have a relatively long tube for the light to travel between the OBJECTIVE LENS (front lens for incoming light) and the EXIT PUPIL (eye piece) to deliver a magnified image to your eye. This is called FOCAL LENGTH. The greater the focal length the greater the magnification.

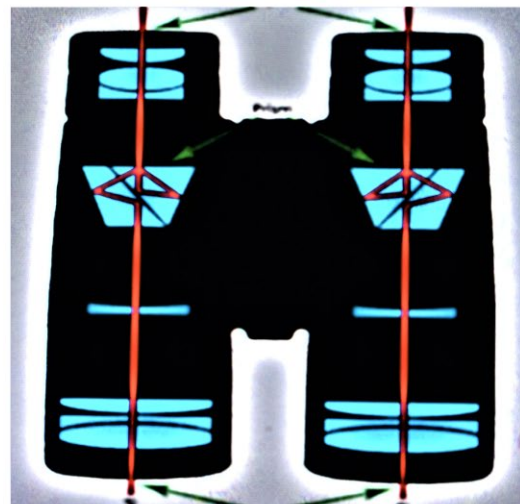
Binoculars are divided into two major groups. The century and a half old Porro prism system and the relatively new Roof prism system.

Each prism system does the same job, reflecting light around inside the prism to gain a longer focal length thereby enhancing the magnification. Looking at the diagrams one can see the difference in the prism system setups.

DIAGRAMS NOT TO RESPECTIVE PROPORTIONS



PORRO



ROOF

The difference between the prism systems gives each advantages and disadvantages. Do these make one better than the other? NO! There are, like most things in life, tradeoffs.

When you are in the market for binoculars, you are going to have to decide which features are more important. You are going to base this on what your interests are and how you plan to use your binoculars.

Basics of Binoculars continued...

To help you determine which type of binoculars and what size let's look at the advantages and disadvantages of each type.

Porro Prism Binoculars

ADVANTAGES:

1. Objective lenses are spaced wider apart and produce a better stereoscopic view.
2. Cheaper to make quality Porro prisms so they tend to be less expensive for the same quality level.
3. The offset of the line of sight through the binocular enables the Porro prism to accommodate larger objective lenses for more light gathering power.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Less compact.
2. Heavier.
3. More moving parts.
4. Harder to waterproof.

Roof Prism Binoculars

ADVANTAGES

1. Compact, streamlined.
2. Less working parts.
3. Easier to waterproof.
4. Lighter.

DISADVANTAGES

1. Image quality can suffer slightly due to the prism misalignment.
2. Smaller objective lenses (dimmer view at same magnification than a Porro prism binocular).

Now we have covered the basic working of binoculars. We will continue next month with guidelines on what to look for in quality binoculars.

**I believe in safety in
numbers.**

**.22, .38, .40, .45, 9mm,
30-06, .223**

Nowadays everyone is so used to seeing others wearing masks, so...

this might be the perfect time to take up ventriloquism...

Think about it...

A Promise Kept; Two Lives Altered

by Steven Rosenoff

Just about four years ago, my neighbor's house was broken into in broad daylight while she was away at work. My wife and I were at home at the time; she was doing a Bible study and I was teaching a science class online. We heard nothing and we saw nothing. Still, I could not get the burglary out of my head: how different things might have been if the prowlers had come to our house instead of the one across the street. I decided we needed a gun for protection, but my wife was afraid of having a gun in our home. So, I made her a promise - I would never bring a firearm into our midst if I could not be safe, proficient, and practiced with its handling.

This pledge is what led me to Lock and Load Em. Emily's basic class grounds a new shooter in a way that inspires confidence. The class is built around safe handling of a firearm. After a brief discourse on guns, ammunition, and firearm policies, the basic course is all hands on. I finished the four-hour class, having expended 250 rounds and wanting more. I later attended Emily's intermediate and advanced courses. I was amazed at not only how much I learned, but also how empowered I felt.

I now concealed-carry my sidearm everywhere. I also have attended Accuracy Northwest's Use of Force classes. I am studying for my NRA Range Safety Officer course; and I am practicing for my NRA Pistol Instructor certification this summer. I am also going to FASTER next year -- a program which instructs public school teachers to respond to active shooter situations with lethal force and EMT skills. I help Emily teach the Basic and Intermediate classes and I am her training and content editor for her Facebook page. In short, Lock and Load Em changed my life ... period. My wife is also a graduate of Emily's basic course. She now possesses her own firearm and concealed-carries -- another life changed and inspired thanks to Lock and Load Em.

Last Spring while working as a Lock and Load Em volunteer instructor, I helped a stroke victim learn to shoot using my special-education skills. After I pass my NRA Instructor course, it is my hope to use my education and skills to help other physically challenged persons learn to shoot as well. I have Masters degrees in Science Education and in Curriculum Design and Learning to help in this goal. I am dry firing 300 times daily and shooting at Glacier Gun Club once or twice weekly in preparation for the Basic, Instructor, and FASTER classes this summer. Additionally I will be volunteer teaching with Lock and Load Em again this summer: basic, intermediate, and advanced/tactical courses.



11 More Cases in Which Responsible Gun Owners Saved Lives

READ FULL ARTICLE AT: www.dailysignal.com/2020/05/12/11-more-cases-in-which-responsible-gun-owners-saved-lives/?utm_source=rss

The Daily Signal has been publishing a monthly series highlighting some of the news stories of defensive gun use that you may have missed—or that might not have made it to the national spotlight in the first place. The lawful defensive uses of guns shown below represent only a small part of many stories. You can find more examples by using The Heritage Foundation's Defensive Gun Use Database, an interactive map which helps users find recent defensive gun uses from all over the country quickly and easily.

- **April 2, Wolf Creek, Oregon:** A homeowner was forced to defend himself with his firearm after confronting a man who was firing guns on the homeowner's property. The intruder—who previously had been convicted of attacking a family member with a samurai sword during an argument - threatened the homeowner.
- **April 4, Chicago, Illinois:** A doorbell camera captured a homeowner's incredible defense against two armed, masked men who brazenly tried to rob the residence in broad daylight. The video shows the two would-be robbers force their way inside when the homeowner answers the door. A struggle ensues off-camera, then the homeowner is seen chasing down and fighting with one of the intruders. When the homeowner returned he found the other intruder pointing a gun at his wife and children. He retrieved his gun from a safe, then shot and killed the assailant.
- **April 8, Asheboro, North Carolina:** A homeowner, leaving for work, discovered that two of his vehicles had been ransacked during the night. As he went back inside to alert family, he heard noises inside the garage and grabbed his firearm to investigate. The homeowner discovered an intruder sitting in the front seat of one of his cars. He held the burglar at gunpoint until police arrived.
- **April 11, Fredericksburg, Texas:** A woman came to the defense of her fiancé by shooting and killing an intruder who had brutally assaulted him in their home. The woman begged the intruder to stop as he beat her fiancé and put him in a chokehold. As her fiancé began to lose consciousness, the woman retrieved a handgun and fatally shot the intruder.
- **April 17, Gaffney, South Carolina:** When a homeowner asked a man to leave his property, he became irate, pulled out a handgun, and threatened the homeowner. The homeowner retreated, grabbed a rifle from inside the house, and again told the man to leave. The intruder then opened fire on the homeowner and five others, including a small child. He fled when the homeowner defended himself and his household with the rifle. Police later arrested and charged a suspect.
- **April 18, Fairfield, Connecticut:** A homeowner, awakened by his barking dogs in the early morning, was confronted by a machete-wielding intruder. He fled when he realized the homeowner was armed.

11 More Cases continued...

- **April 20, Sacramento, California:** A robbery suspect led multiple law enforcement officers on a chase through two counties, at times driving the wrong way and endangering other motorists. The suspect crashed the car and ran through a residential neighborhood. Police said he approached an elderly homeowner sitting on his patio and the homeowner, fearing for his life, shot and wounded him.
- **April 22, Las Vegas, Nevada:** Local prosecutors determined that a concealed-carry permit holder acted in lawful self-defense when he shot and killed a man who fired a gun at him. The permit holder and a woman were eating fast food in a parking lot when the man randomly chose to vent his frustrations on them. The man began shooting at the permit holder, who hid behind a trash can and returned fire.
- **April 24, Lexington, Kentucky:** A man who was the subject of active arrest warrants for robbery and domestic violence broke into his ex-girlfriend's home and opened fire on those inside. An armed resident returned fire, killing the ex-boyfriend and ending the threat long before police could have arrived.
- **April 24, Des Arc, Arkansas:** Two inmates at a county jail attacked their guards, stole their keys, and escaped. Authorities captured one inmate within minutes, but the other – in jail on capital murder charges – was on the run for more than eight hours, police said. When the escapee finally was captured, it was by armed citizens, who found him hiding in an abandoned car.
- **April 29, Yoder, Colorado:** A couple relied on the Second Amendment to defend themselves from four armed attackers who police believe mistook the couple's legal hemp farm for an illegal marijuana operation. Hundreds of rounds reportedly were fired in a shootout, and the four intruders eventually fled.

Whether it's a woman rescuing her fiancé from certain death, or armed citizens unexpectedly helping to end a cross-county manhunt, it's clear that the right to keep and bear arms plays a vital role in promoting public safety and protecting individual rights.

Carry a weapon because a police officer is too heavy...

**A Great
Submarine
Story**



A Great Submarine Story

In 1973 an Italian submarine named Enrique Tazzoli was sold for a paltry \$100,000 as scrap metal. The submarine, given to the Italian Navy in 1953 was actually an incredible veteran of World War II service with a heritage that never should have passed so unnoticed.

The U.S.S. Barb was a pioneer, paving the way for the first submarine launched missiles and flying a battle flag unlike that of any other ship. In addition to the Medal of Honor ribbon at the top of the flag identifying the heroism of its captain, Commander Eugene "Lucky" Fluckey, the bottom border of the flag bore the silhouette of a Japanese locomotive. The U.S.S. Barb was indeed, the submarine that "SANK A TRAIN".

July 18, 1945 (Patience Bay, coast of Japan) It was after 4 A.M. and Commander Fluckey rubbed his eyes as he peered over the map spread before him. It was the twelfth war patrol of the Barb, the fifth under Commander Fluckey. He managed to strike a deal to make one more trip with the men he cared for like a father, should his fourth patrol be successful. Of course, no one suspected that Commander Fluckey's success would be so great he would be awarded the Medal of Honor.

On January 8th the Barb had emerged victorious from a running two-hour night battle after sinking a large enemy ammunition ship. Two weeks later he found the "mother-lode" ...more than 30 enemy ships. In only 30 feet of water his crew had unleashed the sub's forward torpedoes, then turned and fired four from the stern, recording eight direct hits on six enemy ships.

What could possibly be left for the Commander to accomplish? He smiled to himself as he looked again at the map showing the rail line that ran along the enemy coastline. The rail line itself wouldn't be a problem. A shore patrol could go ashore under cover of darkness to plant the explosives. Commander Fluckey and his officers were puzzling over how they could blow not only the rails, but also one of the frequent trains that shuttled war supplies.

Solutions! If you don't look for them, you'll never find them. Instead of having a crewman on shore to trigger explosives to blow both rail and a passing train, why not let the train BLOW ITSELF up. Billy Hatfield was excitedly explaining how he had cracked nuts on the railroad tracks as a kid, placing the nuts between two ties so the sagging of the rail under the weight of a train would break them open. He explained. "To complete the circuit (detonating the 55-pound charge) we hook in a micro switch ...between two ties. We don't set it off, the TRAIN does."

The solution found, there was no shortage of volunteers, all that was needed was the proper weather and a little cloud cover. Commander Fluckey set criteria for the volunteer party: ...No married men except for Hatfield, the party would include members from each department, the opportunity would be split between regular Navy and Navy Reserve sailors, at least half of the men had to have been Boy Scouts, experienced in how to handle themselves in medical emergencies and in the woods. FINALLY, Fluckey would lead the saboteurs himself.

Great Submarine Story continued...

When the names of the 8 selected sailors was announced it was greeted with a mixture of excitement and disappointment. Among the disappointed was Commander Fluckey who surrendered his opportunity at the insistence of his officers that "as commander he belonged with the Barb."

July 22, 1945 - Patience Bay was wearing thin the patience of Commander Fluckey and his innovative crew. Everything was ready. In the four days the saboteurs had anxiously watched the skies for cloud cover, the inventive crew of the Barb had built their micro switch. When the need was posed for a pick and shovel to bury the explosive charge and batteries, the Barb's engineers had cut up steel plates in the lower flats of an engine room, then bent and welded them to create the needed tools. The only things beyond their control were the weather....and time. Only five days remained in the Barb's patrol.

MIDNIGHT, July 23, 1945

The Barb had crept within 950 yards of the shoreline. Slowly the small boats were lowered to the water and the 8 saboteurs began paddling toward the enemy beach. Twenty-five minutes later they pulled the boats ashore and walked on Japanese homeland.

Stumbling through noisy waist-high grasses, crossing a highway and then into a 4-foot drainage ditch, the saboteurs made their way to the railroad tracks. Three men were posted as guards, Markuson was assigned to examine a nearby water tower. The Barb's auxiliary man climbed the ladder, then stopped in shock as he realized it was an enemy lookout tower....an OCCUPIED tower! Fortunately the Japanese sentry was peacefully sleeping.

The news from Markuson caused the men digging the placement for the explosive charge to continue their work more slowly and quietly. Twenty minutes later the holes had been dug and the explosives and batteries hidden beneath fresh soil.

During planning for the mission the saboteurs had been told that, with the explosives in place, all would retreat a safe distance while Hatfield made the final connection. If the sailor who had once cracked walnuts on the railroad tracks slipped during this final, dangerous procedure, his would be the only life lost. On this night it was the only order the saboteurs refused to obey, all of them peering anxiously over Hatfield's shoulder to make sure he did it right.

1:32 A.M.

Watching from the deck of the Barb, Commander Fluckey allowed himself a sigh of relief as he noticed the flashlight signal from the beach announcing the departure of the shore party. He had skillfully, and daringly, guided the Barb within 600 yards of the enemy beach. There was less than 6 feet of water beneath the sub's keel, but Fluckey wanted to be close in case trouble arose and a daring rescue of his saboteurs became necessary.

1:45 A.M.

The two boats carrying his saboteurs were only halfway back to the Barb when the sub's machine gunner yelled, "CAPTAIN! Another train coming up the tracks!" The Commander grabbed a megaphone and yelled through the night, "Paddle like the devil!", knowing full well that they wouldn't reach the Barb before the train hit the micro switch.

Great Submarine Story continued...

1:47 A.M.

The darkness was shattered by brilliant light and the roar of the explosion. The boilers of the locomotive blew, shattered pieces of the engine blowing 200 feet into the air. Behind it the cars began to accordion into each other, bursting into flame and adding to the magnificent fireworks display. Five minutes later the saboteurs were lifted to the deck by their exuberant comrades as the Barb turned to slip back to safer waters. Moving at only two knots, it would be a while before the Barb was into waters deep enough to allow it to submerge. Commander Fluckey's voice came over the intercom. "All hands below deck not absolutely needed to maneuver the ship have permission to come topside." He didn't have to repeat the invitation. Hatches sprang open as the proud sailors of the Barb gathered on her decks to proudly watch the distant fireworks display. The Barb had "sunk" a Japanese TRAIN!

The story of the saboteurs of the U.S.S. Barb is one of those unique, little known stories of World War II. It becomes increasingly important when one realizes that the 8 sailors who blew up the train near Kashiho, Japan conducted the **ONLY GROUND COMBAT OPERATION** on the Japanese "homeland" of World War II.

The eight saboteurs were:

Paul Saunders
William Hatfield
Francis Sever
Lawrence Newland

Edward Klinglesmith
James Richard
John Markuson
William Walker

Eugene Bennett Fluckey retired from the Navy as a Rear Admiral, and wears in addition to his Medal of Honor, **FOUR** Navy Crosses...a record of awards unmatched by any living American. In 1992 his own history of the U.S.S. Barb was published in the award winning book, **THUNDER BELOW**.

For all his exploits, Admiral Fluckey said he was most proud of one thing. As he put it in his memoir, "No one who ever served under my command was awarded the Purple Heart for being wounded or killed, and all of us brought our Barb back safe and sound."

Photo # 19-N-83952 USS Barb in San Francisco Bay, 3 May 1945



Your virus chuckle to start off another week of quarantine:

1. I was so bored I called "Jake at State Farm" just to talk to someone. He asked me what I was wearing.
2. 2019: Stay away from negative people. 2020: Stay away from positive people.
3. The world has turned upside down. Old folks are sneaking out of the house, and their kids are yelling at them to stay indoors.
4. This virus has done what no woman had been able to do: cancel all sports, shut down all bars, and keep men at home doing chores!
5. Don't call the police on suspicious people in your neighborhood. They are your neighbors without makeup and hair extensions!
6. Since we can't eat out, now's the time to eat better and get fit. We are quarantined so who are we trying to impress? We have snacks and we have sweatpants - I say we use them!
7. Day #21 (or whatever day it is) and my dogs are looking at me with this look: "See, this is why we chew the furniture"!
8. Does anyone know if we can take showers yet, or should we just keep washing our hands?
9. I never thought the comment "I wouldn't touch him/her with a 6 foot pole" would become a national policy, but here we are!
10. Me: ALEXA what's the weather going to be this weekend? ALEXA: "It doesn't matter as you are not going anywhere".
11. I swear my refrigerator just said: "what in the hell do you want now"?

The reality of quarantine has turned us into our dogs. We roam the house all day looking for food. We are told "NO" if we get too close to strangers. And, we get really excited about car rides. My dogs told me to send this to you.

Have a Nice Day!

