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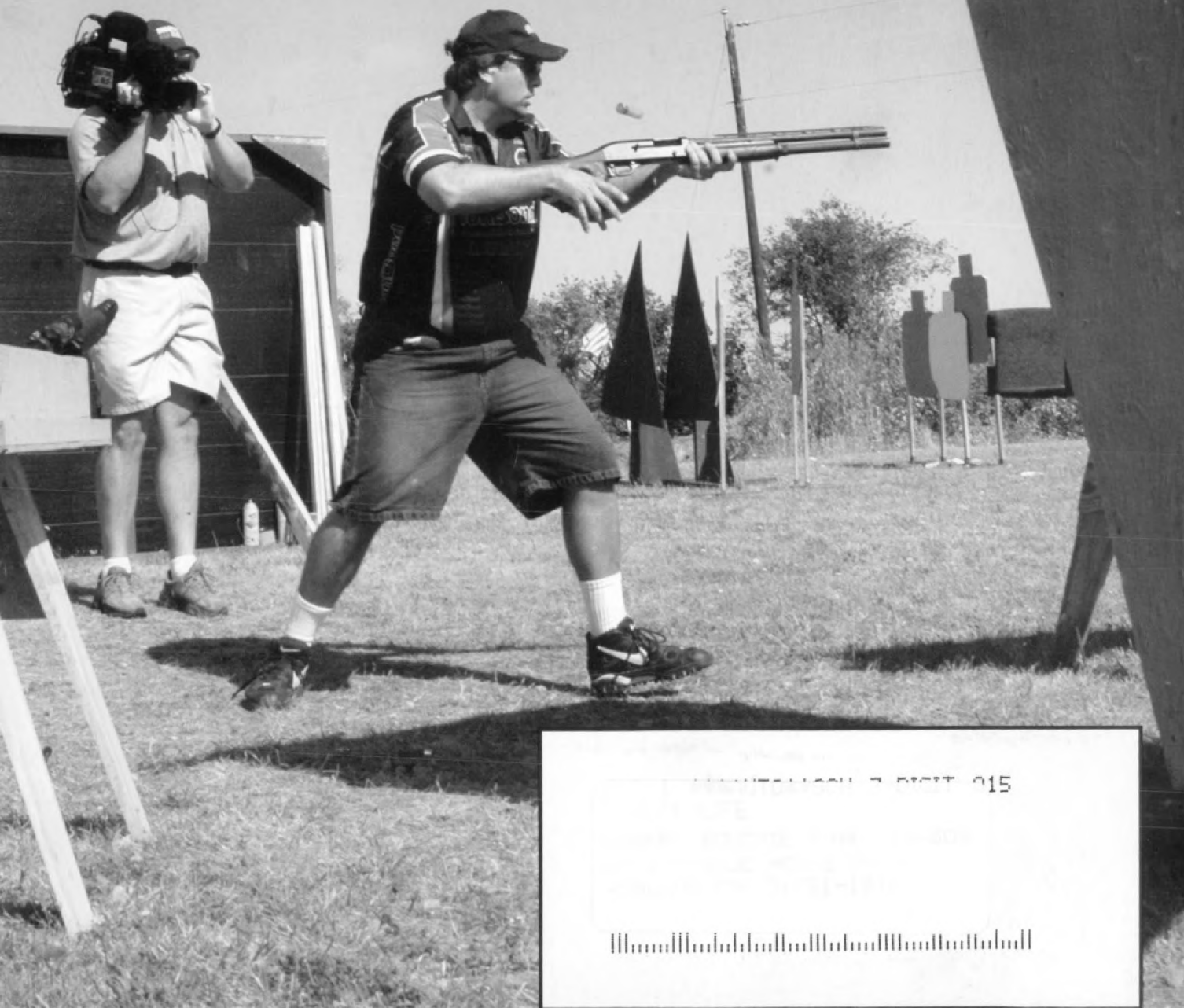
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November/December 2006

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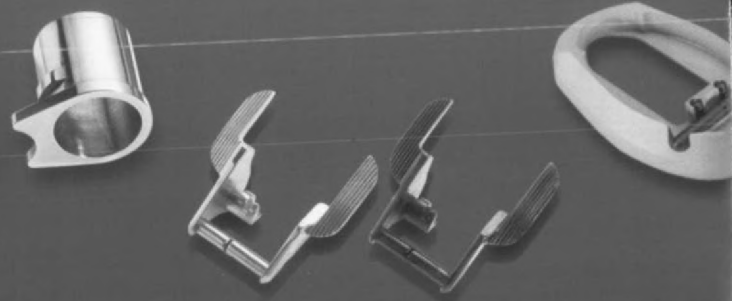


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COVER STORY

30 USPSA's "Surprise" Multi-Gun

By Dave Thomas

Cover: USPSA's Multi-Gun Nationals welcomed the long gun crowd to Albany Oregon. While Voigt and Butler secured repeat titles, Ted Puente landed his first, defeating Bruce Piatt to win Limited division. (Photo by Dave Thomas.)

FEATURE STORIES

- 9 Wheelgunners
Converge on Kansas
By Dave Williams
- 10 New Product Corner
By USPSA Staff
- 11 NO CAKE FOR YOU!
by USPSA Staff
- 12 Swingin' The HAMMR
By Battavia
- 16 GM Tips: Taran Butler
on One-Hand Shooting
By Paul Benson
- 18 Targeting Education '06
By James Tarr
- 24 Safety Area:
Remembering Rich Carroll
by Kim Williams
- 24 Ken Kempker, New TD
by Ken Kempker
- 26 Practical Shooting in
Russia
by Yuri "Grossfater Muller"
Danilov, Translated by Maxim Popenker

- 28 Russian Gun Laws
by Maxim Popenker
- 29 The Stechkin APS:
1950s Oddball Now IPSC gun
by Maxim Popenker
- 36 IN THE GAME:
Shawn Carlock, Long Ranger
by Robin Taylor
- 46 2006 West Coast Dual
by Paul Benson, Photos by Dave Thomas
- 53 2006 Area 7 Champs
by James Tarr
- 55 Looking Back: The
1976 World Champs, Austria
by Walter Luger and Werner Weissenhofer
- 63 Multi-Gun Equipment
Survey
by Robin Taylor, USPSA Staff
- 69 BOD Meeting Minutes:
March 4, August 14
- 78 Corrections and Goofs
by USPSA Staff

COLUMNS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------|----|-------------------------------------|----|
| Member's Mailbag | 2 | Neill On Reloading | 58 |
| Inside USPSA | 3 | Custom Gun Talk | 65 |
| Inside NROI | 4 | Major Matches | 77 |
| From The Editor | 5 | New Masters | 71 |
| Bulletin Board | 8 | JP Enterprises 3-Gun Calendar | 77 |
| Focus on Juniors | 7 | Advertisers' Index | 80 |
| New Range Officers | 66 | | |

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MEMBERS' MAILBAG

COMMENTS FROM THE MEMBERSHIP



On Sandy Froman

Dear Dave,

In the Sep/Oct issue of FRONT SIGHT, you have run part 2 of Robin Taylor's article "Looking Back ...". On page 66, he mentions that NRA President Sandy Froman attended a NSSF/USPSA Ladies-only shooting camp. Let me expand on Sandy's involvement with USPSA.

Sandy's late husband was Bruce Nelson, one of the founders of IPSC. Sandy has taken a half dozen or more classes at GUNSITE, as well as Thunder Ranch. (As a side note, Sandy went to her first class because of a threat to her safety, an attempted home invasion. It prompted her to buy her first gun, and learn how to shoot. So the NRA President is well aware of the potential use of firearms for personal defense.)

Sandy is, in fact, a USPSA member, although her busy NRA schedule precludes her shooting in matches right

now. But she is an active shooter, whenever her law practice and NRA duties allow. She is currently working on another Ladies Camp, sponsored by Smith & Wesson. It will be held in Tucson, where she will host the ladies at her home for a dinner.

I am sure that there are other board members of the NRA who are USPSA members and shooters. The NRA has a big tent, with room for all kinds of shooters. Our members should rest easy that our concerns are well known and understood by the NRA board.

Sincerely yours,

Seth R. Nadel, CL-89

Adding To The Stanford Story

Robin,

The historical bits in Front Sight were very entertaining. Although I got involved with the North West Practical Pistol Association (NWPPA) fairly late in the game (Spring of '97), some folks whose involvement goes "way back"

Front Sight welcomes comments from members, but because of space restrictions we cannot print all the letters we receive. To increase the chances of your letter being printed, keep your letters to no more than 350 words. Longer letters will be printed only if space allows. Unsigned letters will not be printed unless under extraordinary circumstances.

are still hanging around at Interlake, the original home of NWPPA. I was discussing the origins of NWPPA, and its association with then Interlake Rod & Gun Club, with Greg Corley (who was still Interlake treasurer as recently as a year or two ago), and he said that after talking with Interlake President Emeritus Rick Raymond, the actual



Photo courtesy of NWPPA.

Dave Stanford, second from left, poses with his fellow "Northwest International Champions" in 1979.

origins of "combat shooting" at that range go back to 1973. While it seems unlikely that there will be pistol competition at Interlake (now Interlake Sporting Association) again, any time soon, NWPPA lives on as an IDPA-affiliated club.

There is a large, framed photo still in the Interlake clubhouse, that shows the NWPPA team that won some regional or national championship in the late '70s, and while I don't know who

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MEMBERS' MAILBAG continued on page 23.



By Michael Voigt, USPSA PRESIDENT
president@uspsa.org

INSIDE USPSA

I truly love shooting a match in beautiful country where firearms are a normal part of life. I and a few others wanted to zero rifles after landing in Portland, Ore. for the Multi-Gun Nationals. We drove to a farming area, talked with a farmer for a bit and were welcomed to use the area where they sighted in their hunting rifles. They were very interested in the competition, we swapped tales of recent hunting/fishing adventures and off we went.

The Multi-gun Nationals was a very well-rounded match with several key players working together to maximize the potential of the Albany range. Course design ranged from "fast as you can go" to "all the accuracy you can muster" as necessary skills to post a good score on various stages. Our sponsors supported the match generously and several made the trip to show their latest merchandise to competitors and spectators. I held a short competitor/staff comment session to get a feel for what USPSA can do to better serve

the membership. Several ideas were discussed and have been passed to the rules committee for review. After the match I received several emails congratulating USPSA as hosting a true world class Multi-Gun championship. After sweating through an extremely hot week of match set up week prior to the match, the weather was very nice for the competition. Awesome match, great country and if you missed it – you REALLY missed a great Multi-Gun match!



Competitors at the Limited/Limited 10 and Revolver Nationals were challenged with several new props and types of courses owing in part to membership submitted ideas. Thank you to everyone submitting stage designs,

they indeed brought new ideas to the match designers. This marked 20 years of USPSA National Championships at PASA Park! Ray Hirst commented that he and I may be the only people attending all of the USPSA National Championships, which include the first 3-Gun Nationals and a Multi-Gun Nationals a few years ago. We have survived rain, wind, hail, and heat over the years. This week was beautiful every day, with squads running on time, a full sponsor tent, Range Masters visiting with competi-

Photo by Dave Thomas.

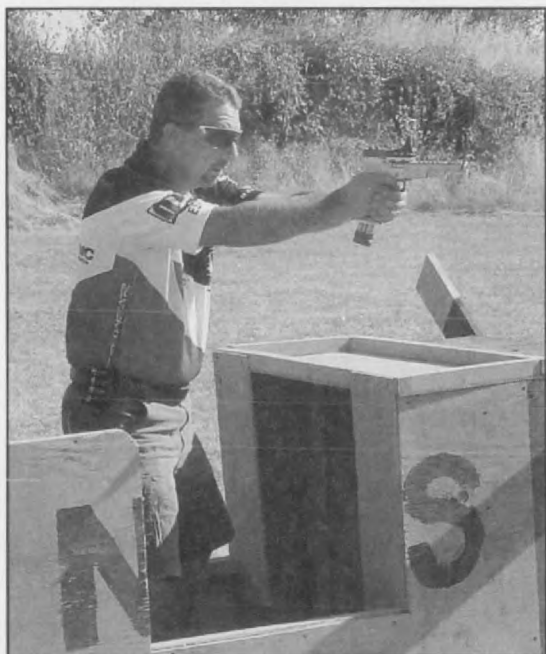
Michael Voigt competing at the 2006 Multi-Gun Nationals in Albany, Ore.

tors, props working squad after squad, stats available immediately after shooting – a model match for sure!

Tulsa, Okla., and the Open/Production Nationals are just around the corner and I am looking forward to seeing our newest USPSA Nationals range! The stages are posted to the USPSA web page and they look very challenging. Again, many new ideas have come to the stage designers from the membership. This match was sold out far over capacity as soon as the slots were distributed. Photos of the range construction have been very impressive – watching trees being cleared, berms being shaped and most recently sod being placed on the bays and berms to be used for Nationals.

Atlanta will be the location for our last 2006 in-person BOD meeting. Rules will be an important topic as reported in last month's column. Also listed on the agenda (USPSA webpage/member's page) are several other topics that I encourage you to read and then share your opinions with your Area Director and other USPSA leaders. You are the reason for USPSA – be sure to share your wants and desires for USPSA.

See you on the range!



INSIDE NROI

By John Amidon, NROI DIRECTOR
dnroi@uspsa.org



As I am writing this, I am packing for the 2006 Limited/Limited 10/Revolver Nationals; I cannot believe that the year has gone by so fast. So far it has been a tremendous shooting season, with much more still left.

There has been some question on the setup of classifier 03-12 (Iron-sides, <http://www.uspsa.org/classifiers/03-12.pdf>), this course has been out for over three years now, but folks still find new ways to read the course description. Interpreting the instructions differently can cause big problems for the classification process, so I thought I would bring certain things to the members' attention. For instance, in the classification book, it states:

"The classification system is able to determine a competitor's accuracy and speed as those abilities are quantifiable. The system is not able to measure the ability to "game" a stage as those intangible skills are not quantifiable. If competitors are allowed to outsmart the classification course designer the results are meaningless. . . . If the stage description leaves any doubt as to the proper procedure, please call the office for clarification before the match."

Also, Rule 1.2.2.3 states: "Classi-

fiers" – Courses of fire published by a Regional Directorate and/or IPSC, which are available to competitors seeking a regional and/or international classification. Classifiers must be set-up in accordance with these rules and be conducted strictly in accordance with the notes and diagrams accompanying them. . . ."

As a fellow shooter recently explained, CM03-12 is a barricade 4 feet tall and 8 feet wide with a 2-foot bar extending over each end defining Port



A (left side) and Port B (right side) — with some targets downrange. The setup notes define the shooting area to be 8 feet wide behind the 4-foot high barricade, and the course diagram shows unlabeled lines defining this area. Unfortunately, the course description doesn't spell this out, saying only, "On signal, from Port A engage only T1, T2, PP1 and PP2, and from Port B engage only T3, T4, PP3 and PP4."

Without the normal text explicitly stating that those lines are fault lines, honest people could disagree. Someone has to make the call, so an interpretation from NROI is appropriate.

Rule 1.2.2.3 requires us to set the course up "strictly in accordance with the notes and diagrams." That includes the setup notes, which explicitly define what is, and is not the shooting area. The dirt under "port A" and "port B" lies outside the shooting area, therefore the lines on the drawing are fault lines.

This discussion focuses on 03-12, but applies generally to any classifier currently offered by the USPSA office. Please, if you have a question about how to set up a classifier, contact me.

Response to "Are You Ready" — Required Or Not?

I was helping out at a local match yesterday. One shooter, after loading and making ready, took the usual several "rehearsals of the hands" from the stated start position, (reaching from start to his weapon). When I guessed he was ready I asked "shooter ready?"

Receiving no response, or movement, I repeated the command/question, still no response or movement, after the third time (I actually thought he was deaf) he finally responded:

"I am not required to respond the range command."

While I thought this just to be poor manners, I reviewed the rule book, and found it vague on the subject. Since the command is listed as a question in the rule book, are shooters supposed to respond?

INSIDE NROI continued on page 74.

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FROM THE EDITOR

By Dave Thomas, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
dave@uspsa.org



USPSA Web Page Member's Area

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These words are written in the midst of busy times at USPSA!

Nationals

As I write this, the Multigun Nationals has been in our rear view mirror for barely a month (see the story on page 30), the Limited-Limited 10-Revolver Nationals start in less than a week, and the Open-Production Nationals will happen in less than a month. In Oregon those responsible for a successful multigun match are, hopefully, enjoying a well-earned rest, while the PASA Park and Tulsa crews are furiously working to prepare for sold-out events.

Slots

Demand for Nationals slots has had its ups and downs. For example, in 1991 I earned a slot to Nationals through the Montana Section slot series. In those days there was only one national match, and only one Division. Match capacity was around 550 and it was always full. In fact, some big name shooters were reduced to standing in line at registration hoping to get the slot of someone who didn't show up. Competition for slots was intense.

I had never competed in anything larger than the Area 1 Championship, and I knew that it was possible I would never have another opportunity to shoot in a National Championship. I sold two guns to help finance the trip and left my business for a week during a busy time. It was that big a deal.

Over time USPSA members came to assume that if they didn't win a slot locally they could get into the match at the last minute because there always seemed to be excess slots. You can still find people who believe that, but you have to look for them because the days of "excess slots" are a thing of the past.

Slots are once again a big deal. For the past several years the matches have



been full. This year the Limited/Limited 10/Revolver match is fully subscribed and Open/Production match is jammed to capacity with nearly 100 people left on the waiting list.

The message for you in all this is the need to plan ahead. If you think you may want to compete in a 2007 or 2008 nationals you should start planning now to shoot as many local matches as possible to help build activity credit for your club and/or section. If you aren't sure what your club or section bylaws have to say about how slots are distributed, ask to see them. Some sections, for example, require that you register your interest in earning a slot. There may be a section slot series of point matches, or other requirements you must meet to be eligible for a local slot.

You should also be prepared to sign up on the slot waiting list as soon as it is available, an event that will be announced both on the national web site (www.USPSA-Nationals.org) and in the pages of this magazine. If you don't

A Legend Passes:

Jeff Cooper, recognized as the founder of IPSC, passed away Monday afternoon, September 25, 2006. Our thoughts and prayers are with the family.

earn a local slot, the waiting list represents your best option.

If you don't earn a local slot, and if you aren't on the waiting list early enough to receive a "surplus" slot, your only other option is to come to the match site and wait at registration in hopes of receiving a "no show" slot. The risk of incurring the necessary expense without an opportunity to compete is not insignificant.



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It is also important to make sure that you are classified at least two months prior to the match. The match dates will determine the classification period used for the event. For example, this year's Limited - Limited 10 - Revolver match will use the August classifications because the dates coincide with the normal system run. The same situation exists in October for the Open/Production match which will use the September update. It is very likely that some will arrive expecting to shoot within a classification which they will not yet have earned.

This situation also illustrates the importance of clubs getting scores to us as soon as possible following a match.

The bottom line is that based on recent experience, it is very risky to assume you will have the opportunity to shoot a National Championship event without planning ahead.

Trade Shows

As in previous years USPSA will have a booth at the SHOT Show and the NRA Annual Meeting & Exhibits. SHOT will be in Orlando, Florida, January 11-14, and the NRA event will

be in Saint Louis, Missouri, April 12-17. We are also attempting to identify an appropriate law enforcement show with dates that allow our participation.

While I travel to these shows to set up and dismantle the display and deal with administrative issues, we count on our members to staff the booth. It is particularly important that we have members who live in or near the host city at the NRA Show.

Benefits of working the booth (other than the opportunity to serve your sport and build your club) are free admission to the show, lunch on the day you work, reimbursement for parking expenses on the days worked, and a USPSA shirt.

If you think you may be interested in spending a day working one of these shows, send me email (dave@uspsa.org) to apply. Typically we prefer to have two people in the booth each day, and three on the busiest day, usually Saturday. To give as many people a chance to participate as possible we try to use different crews each day.



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FOCUS ON JUNIORS

By Larry Houck, JUNIOR PROGRAM COORDINATOR
larry.houck@cis-llc.net



USPSA Junior Member's Area

www.uspsa-juniors.org

username: dvc password: juniors

It is hard to believe that summer is almost over and the major match season has come to an end. I have had the privilege, thanks to Heckler and Koch, to participate in matches that I would not have otherwise attended. During my travels this year, I met some extraordinary young people in our sport. I see many with dad on the range, but I am seeing more with mom as well. However, what I see the most is the sportsmanship that is shown to our youngsters from other competitors. Words of encouragement and congratulations are the norm, but we have come to expect that out of each other. The teaching of good sportsmanship will stay with our youngsters for years to come. Indeed,

it will be passed down from generation to generation.

You may be witnessing the changing of the guard. At the 2006 nationals, a junior revolver shooter named Nils Jonasson shot 92 percent of Jerry Miculek's score. I would not say Jerry will be beaten next year, but it will be interesting to see youth and enthusiasm shooting against age and craftiness. I am sure Jerry has some tricks in his bag for next year. However I am sure Nils will be practicing hard and getting ready to go against one of the best.

Our junior spotlight this month shines on a 12-year-old young man out of the Mid-Atlantic Section named Ben Thompson. Ben is a very aspiring Limited/Limited 10 shooter. Ben started two years ago with a Glock in Limited 10. According to his dad, Howard Thompson, he wanted Ben to learn the accuracy of the game before speed. Ben finished 1st Limited 10 D Class at the 2006 Area 8 Championship, shooting his brand-new STI .40. Now I watched this young man shoot a stage; if he continues to shoot smoothly and consistently as he did that day, I see Mr. Skinner shelling out a lot of STI Contingency dollars to young Ben. What makes Ben stand out even more is the fact that Ben has become a range officer. In his second year of competition, he understands the work ethic involved in our sport as you will find him out there beside the adults setting up stages and running shooters. If you shot the Summer Blast this year, Ben was chasing shooters all over a stage. As a matter of fact, he was working one of the fastest stages of the

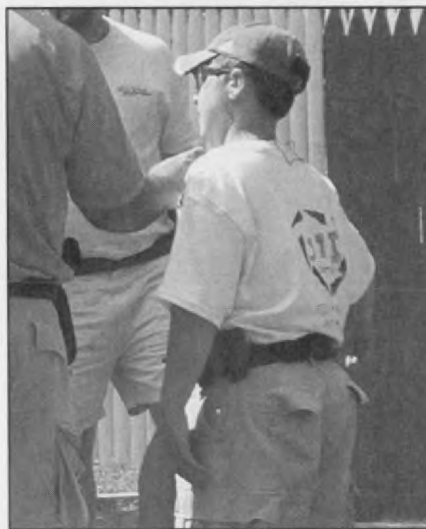


Photo by Larry Houck.

Junior Limited/L-10 shooter, and aspiring range officer, Ben Thompson.

match. Next time you run into Ben at a local or major match tell him you read about him in Front Sight!

When this issue arrives at your door the junior raffle will have come to a close. Look for more details on that in our next issue!

Our winner for the bi-monthly timer drawing provided by CED and STI is Katelyn Powers, A-57161, from Eleanor, W.Va.. Katelyn, enjoy your new timer and be sure to send a thank you to Mr. Hardy and Mr. Skinner for providing that great training tool.

As the shooting season concludes, if any club raises money for the junior program, please be sure to mark it "USPSA Junior Fund" so Staci can ensure it gets to the correct location and the club gets credit for it. Until next time, may your times be fast and your shots accurate, but most of all, take a junior shooting — they are the future.



Photo courtesy of Larry Houck.

Larry Houck chewing up some targets at the Summer Blast.



BULLETIN BOARD

INFORMATION EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW



By Val Reule
val@uspsa.org

NEW CLUBS, NEW SCS

We have two new clubs to report! Please extend a warm welcome to Great Lakes Steel in Romulus, Mich., and to Alaska Interior Marksmanship Committee Tactical and Practical Shooters, better known as AIM-COMM-TAPS, of Fairbanks, Alaska. Their information is on the web site, so please check them out.

We also have two new SCs. Steve Deardorff has accepted the position for the South Texas section, and Jeff LaFave for Michigan. Greet them when you see them, and offer your assistance. Remember, they, just like all the club officials, stats people, and others who work so hard to help the organization grow, are volunteers. They deserve your respect and help.

IT'S COMING!

What's coming? Why, the end of the year is coming. Clubs, be sure to check the mail for your third quarter reports; be sure to read through them for any errors and report anything you don't agree with right away. Re-affiliation forms will be coming out at the same time – be sure to watch for them. Those forms have to be returned no later than February 15 to avoid the late fee.

This is also the time to check the number of activities your club has submitted to us for the year. The minimum number is eight events, three of which have to include classifiers. Are you coming up short because of flood, fire, or burnout? Do you need an exemption? Please let us know right away.

AND IN THE MAIL . . .

Although a lot of clubs are uploading the results of their classifiers and matches electronically, we still get quite a bit through the US mail. If you're mailing in classifier match paperwork, remember we want just the classification stage reports and the cover sheet. Only non-classifier matches must include a copy of the overall results.

ELECTRONIC UPLOADS

We're very pleased with how many clubs are uploading their match or classifier results. Generally things work smoothly, but occasionally mistakes do happen. Sorting out mistakes can cause us no end of trouble, so if you have to make a correction, here's the plan:

1. Upload only the correction; don't re-upload the entire match.
2. If you mail a check after upload-

ing a classifier, BE SURE to include the transaction number, club code and date (as great as some of us are at researching, we cannot read minds).

3. Finally, PLEASE put only one club's transactions on a check. If you are sending remittances for separate clubs, use separate checks.

CLUB WEB SITES

Every once in a while, I get an e-mail asking that something be changed on a club's web site. Maintenance of a club's web site, however, is up to the club. USPSA only provides a link from the Clubfinder to the club's page. If that page moved, notify us so we can fix the records. The USPSA Clubfinder is a tremendously valuable resource for prospective members.

AND FINALLY . . .

As I am entering club activity credits I find myself surprised, and a little dismayed, at the number of clubs who apparently have only USPSA members shooting at their clubs. Guys, if we are to build a stronger, more vital sport, we need to bring in new shooters – otherwise, we're just preaching to the choir.

Don't forget, we have giveaways to help you present the sport in a positive light – annuals, brochures, and even the little business cards that were featured a couple of issues back, can be used to generate interest. Then when prospective members show up at the range, be sure they have fun! Maybe they won't ever become a member, but maybe they'll tell their buddies about what a kick the match was – and some of those buddies might come out and shoot, and have fun, and join us. So what are you waiting for? Call us today for your supplies!



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Wheelgunners Converge on Kansas Sectional

By Dave Williams, L-593

From close up hose'em down run'n'guns that left you breathless with your heart pounding to 25 yard standards on Classic Targets to a field course that started with a distant Texas Star shot through a small port, the Kansas Sunflower Sectional's courses tested your speed, precision and agility. Stage 2 even required the competitor to engage targets while backpedaling 10 yards at full speed.

The previous day a dozen or so competitors and range officers finished setting up and clawed their way through the match despite a brutally hot, record-setting Kansas summer day. With temperatures hovering just shy of 100, they struggled just to stay upright.

A lonely revolver competed in the heat that Friday, responding to the sec-

tion's emphasis on revolver competition. I was one of three USPSA Revolver Masters scheduled to shoot the match (a fourth, Mike Carmoney, would receive his Master classification just after the match). Two full squads of revolvers would follow me the next day, slugging it out for the wheelgun win. In the heat I would do no better than fifth among the 16 Revolver Division competitors at this match, but I still laid claim to the Kansas State Revolver Division Champion title.

The Sunflower Sectional's emphasis on revolvers drew competitors from California, Florida, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Colorado, Iowa, and Kansas. It also drew Apex Tactical and Hogue as sponsors, decorating the revolver prize table with moon clip caddies, grips, and other wheelgun stuff. Revolvers represented almost 20 percent of the 83 total competitors, making Revolver Division (with 16) the third-largest division behind Limited (22) and Open (20).

The camaraderie within Revolver Division was reminiscent of my experiences in the early days of IPSC. The wheelies compete with a blend of grace and speed that belies the effort needed to make the difficult look easy. Today high capacity guns make many courses into a track meet with bullets, with the competitor only needing to find the target. Not so for a revolver.

Competing with a revolver requires extensive thought as to engagement routines. Yes, routines. Watching an accomplished revolver competitor is

more like watching a dancer. All of the individual moves must combine for a net effect, with one move setting up the next. You won't see a long dash-to-a-spot-and-hose'em run when the shooter only has six rounds in the gun. Shooting in Revolver Division requires purposeful bursts of movement, combined with smooth,



Photo by Dave Williams.

Mike Carmoney slingin' lead.

sure handling of your firearm. Any mistake won't just require a makeup shot, but will alter your whole plan of action. The fun and the sense of accomplishment after a good run is exhilarating.

Of the 16 Revolvers at this year's match, 14 were S&W 25 or 625's, one was a S&W 686 (shot minor) and the last a Ruger GP100. The only choices are pretty much grips and sights. This is not a division in the midst of an equipment race, and the predominant feeling amongst the division's competitors is it's the shooter not the gear that determines placement.

Sometimes you run across a determined competitor who stands out. One such character is Doug Carden of Iowa, who gets the Tuff Man Award this year. Three weeks before the match he broke two fingers on his shooting hand during a "dynamic entry." He shows up with no cast and shoots the match by transferring his revolver to his weak hand to fire and reload. Is that tough enough? I would say so, but then as an officer with the

KANSAS WHEELGUNS continued on page 73.

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NEW PRODUCT CORNER:

Shooting USA Switches To The Outdoor Channel

Shows will run year-round on Saturday nights

Tier One Media, LLC and The Outdoor Channel jointly announced that Shooting USA will air Saturday nights at 10:00 EST beginning September 30th. The long-running gunsports and firearms news series will continue year-round, without interruption.

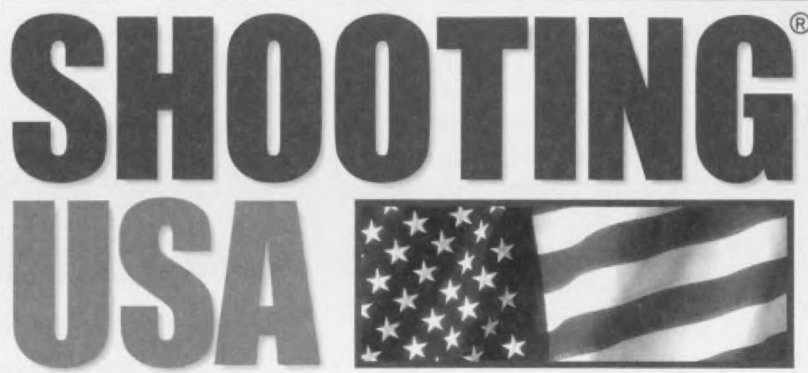
Jim Scoutten, Tier One Executive Producer, said the new contract is what the fans of the show have been asking for. "We recently surveyed our fans on when they wanted to see the show and the majority said Saturdays." Scoutten said, "And they told us they want to be able to see the series every week, without pre-emptions or changes in the schedule. They want to know when they tune in, we'll be there. Our new contract assures that."

This season of Shooting USA will be Scoutten's 14th year of reporting on the firearms industry and the shooting sports. The Outdoor Channel will be the fourth network to carry Scoutten's gun shows. "Networks change, management changes, even network names change, as they evolve to chase new audiences," Scoutten said. "But The Outdoor Channel has an unbroken commitment to serving the traditional outdoor enthusiast and sportsman. We're delighted to be bringing Shooting USA into that stable environment where our fans can count on seeing the shows."

Wade Sherman, the Outdoor Channel's senior vice president of programming said, "The Outdoor Channel is pleased to welcome Jim Scoutten and Shooting USA. Jim is one of the pioneers of shooting sports

television...Shooting USA will be a significant addition to our quality lineup of shooting sports programming that includes Guns and Ammo TV, Cowboys, and Shooting Gallery."

Sherman said the series will air three times each week, with the prime time airing on Saturday nights at 10:00 EST, following American Rifleman. That's 9:00PM Central, 8:00PM Mountain, and 7:00PM Pacific time.



Scoutten says Tier One Media will produce 26 Shooting USA shows each year, with a new show appearing, on average, every other week. "We're a little backed up with the change in networks," Scoutten said, "We've got exclusive coverage of national title matches that will be some of the first editorial to go on the air. The first show presents the Limited, Production, and Revolver Division National Championships of the United States Practical Shooting Association from Barry, Illinois." Scoutten said.

"Major sponsors of Shooting USA include those long associated with the series: Smith & Wesson, Benelli, and Federal Premium Ammunition." Scoutten said, "Plus we have three new show sponsors, Trijicon, Blackhawk Products Group, and Crimson Trace."

Scoutten said the editorial content of each of the shows in the series will be posted on the www.ShootingUSA.com website as the schedule evolves in the weeks ahead.

"I can tell you this much now,"

Front Sight welcomes press releases that figure directly on USPSA/IPSC shooting. Because of space restrictions we cannot print all the releases we receive. To submit a press release, contact advertising coordinator Barbara Gibbs at barbara@uspsa.org

Scoutten said, "Our Pro Tips instructor series continues this season with Bill Davison teaching Precision Rifle, Jerry Miculek teaching AR-15 Rifle, and Todd Jarrett teaching Competition and Tactical Handgun Techniques. Our professionals are ready to help you improve your shooting."

Scoutten said six-gun master Bob Munden is re-joining the Shooting USA team of exhibition shooters after a four year break. "Bob will be demonstrating what we call Impossible Shots along with Archer Byron Ferguson, Shotgun world record holder Tom Knapp, and the new shotgun guy, Tim Bradley.

"No question we've got the editorial our audience wants to see." Scoutten said, "I'm just delighted we have a network that values our work and is willing to make it available to our audience."

Shooting USA is a registered trademark of Tier One Media, LLC, a privately held production company based in Franklin, Tennessee.

The Outdoor Channel provides traditional outdoor programming to America's 82 million anglers, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts. The Outdoor Channel features approximately 100 weekly programs featuring hunting, fishing and shooting sports, as well as off road motor sports and other related lifestyle programming. Nielsen Media Research estimates The Outdoor Channel's universe, through a combination of cable and satellite dish subscribers, to be approximately 27.6 million homes for August 2006.



NO CAKE FOR YOU!

Gallatin Action Shooters Outfox Local Cake Nazis

By USPSA STAFF

One would think doing pre-match preparations for the Northern Rockies Section Championship in Montana would be fairly straightforward. The match isn't especially big (53 competitors from four states), and while the weather can be hot (105 degrees the previous week), it is dry, and on Aug. 5, the actual match day, temperatures were a comfortable 85.

Match Director Nick Pipinich of the Gallatin Action Shooters dealt with the usual problems of sanitation, targets, stage design, prop construction, whether to bring in food, etc., even making arrangements for personalized match memorabilia in the form of brightly-colored key chain-sized multi knives and embossed pens.

"One thing that was brought up to me (by my wife) was to have a nice cake to serve at the end of the match. As match director, I delegated that project to her (exercising my MD rights)."

As Nick explains, when Dawn Pipinich started going around to the places that would make a cake, she became an unwitting participant in the old Seinfeld "no soup for you!" gag.

After many stops, Dawn discovered that NO one would make a cake for anything to do with guns or shooting. It's "no cake for you!" if you target shoot in Bozeman.

"As odd as that may sound, we were kind of stumped," says Nick.

Rather than submit to the wishes of the "cake Nazis" and get a dumbed-down, politically-correct sham-cake, Dawn decided to build a cake of her own.

Mrs. Pipinich had just completed a

cake-decorating class a few weeks prior, and while USPSA targets are not what you'd call a common "cake decorating accessory," she felt up to the job. (See detailed models in photo.)

"She started four days early making and then freezing the cake and making her own frosting and all the associated regalia. I thought match prep was hard!" says Nick. "After the match was completed, we all headed up to the clubhouse and she unveiled the cake. I must say that I was shocked. I expected a cake with maybe the NRS (Northern Rockies Section) written out multi-colored, but instead she actually duplicated our club logo (Gallatin Action Shooters) and our NRS logo. Then on the other side of the cake she had made a complete stage design. I, as well as all others, was very impressed. So not only did the competitors have a nice and challenging match, but they also got treated to a very nicely decorated and tasty cake to boot."

It's amazing how small-minded some people can be about shooting and guns (what did the cake Nazis think they'd accomplish by refusing to make a cake for a bunch of shooters, *in Montana?*). Hopefully you won't have to discover a pocket of political correctness as the Pipinichs did, but as Mr. Pipinich said in a recent e-mail:

"I thought this was something that others may like to hear about, (since) . . . it may take some doing to get the local places to do anything in regards to shooting or guns."

Bravo, Mrs. Pipinich!

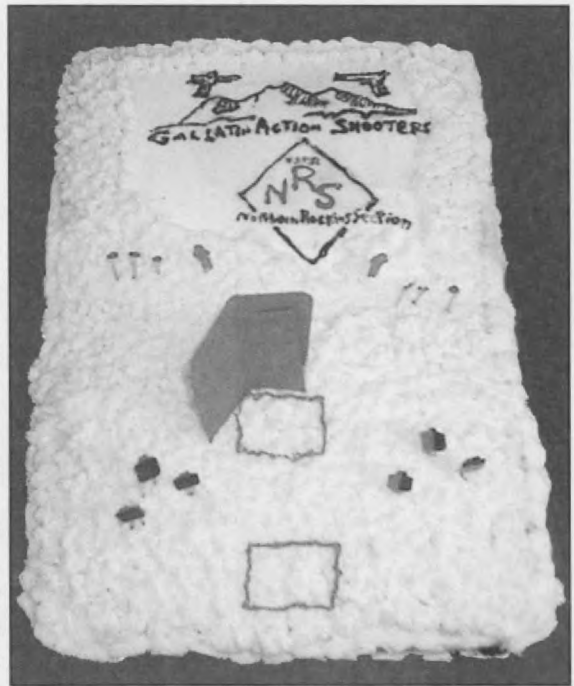


Photo courtesy of Nick Pipinich.

Photographing food is difficult, but this snapshot captures many of the details that went into Dawn Pipinich's cake. Note the tiny USPSA targets and scale-model Pepper poppers.

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Swingin' The HAMMR

Test-Firing A Challenger To The "Ransom Rest"



BY BATAVIA, A-54458

Dave Thomas and I were talking about the essence of what made practical shooting fun. I mentioned the challenge of balancing speed and accuracy on the course. Then Dave pointed out, "You know, picking the equipment is a lot of fun too." Months later I remembered his insight when I picked up a new handgun rest from Caldwell called the HAMMR which stands for Handgun Accuracy Mechanical Machine Rest.

Shooters debate endlessly about the accuracy benefits of after-market barrels, of changing powders, lead-based vs. lead-free primers, etc. With the HAMMR, I would finally have some solid science to add to the conversation: machine-rest groups, free of any shooter error!

I took the new HAMMR to the outdoor range and mounted it with C clamps almost as big as the handgun rest itself to what I thought was a heavy shooting table. I shot several magazines from the shooting rest only to notice the shooting table was moving around

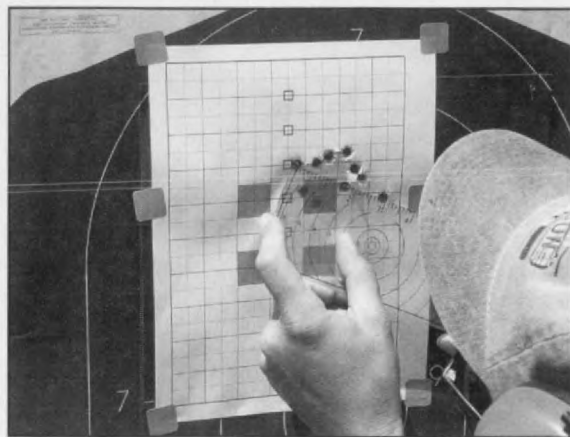
like a jackhammer with a .45 single stack mounted to it. (Lesson 1: A handgun rest is only as consistent as the stability of the shooting table you attach it to.) Thankfully the polyurethane grip inserts from Caldwell fit my .45 single stack grips solidly, and I learned I can easily reload the pistol by pulling back on the pivot arm to expose the magazine well. The HAMMR consistently returns to battery on its own with the help of a gas piston.

HAMMR Accuracy Results

Learning my shooting table lesson, I found a heavy metal table and mounted the HAMMR to it. This table took two people to move, but for added stability, I put two 40-pound bags of salt on the table. After some test shots showed THIS table wasn't moving, I started doing accuracy tests on several types of ammo using an eight-round magazine. A 10-round wouldn't fit into the rest because the HAMMR was designed to keep the

centerline of the barrel as low as possible to the base, thereby increasing accuracy by reducing the flex and variability of the pivot arm.

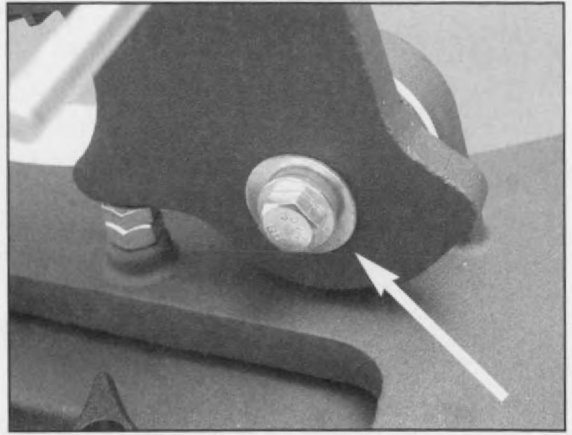
Over the course of shooting hundreds of rounds, I quickly learned to monitor the pivot arm screw, which tends to come loose after 20 .45 ACP shots. I gently tightened the pivot arm screw after every 10 shots and checked that the pivot arm returned freely to battery. If you tighten the pivot screw too tight, the piston will not return the pivot arm to battery until you loosen the pivot arm screw.



Gauging one of the 10-round groups.

With the rest working, I wanted to see if shooting a five-round group made a difference over shooting a 10-round group. Logically it should, but how much? Below is an accuracy table showing five-round groups fired from the HAMMR rest. To no one's surprise, the numbers are different. What surprised me was just how LARGE the differences were – as much as 50 percent! Black Hills New 230gr FMJ did-

n't vary much, its average 10-round group of 2.583" and five-round group of 2.146" were only off by .438" or 17 percent. The Black Hills Remanufactured 230gr FMJ did a little worse, with its 10-round group of 2.396" and five-round group of 1.542" varying by .854" or 35 percent. Surprisingly, the PMC



230gr FMJ showed a 10-round group of 4.938"

Problematic pivot arm screw. Keep an eye on this. In Battavia's experience, it had to be tightened every 20 shots.

10-Shot Group Tests				
Dan Wesson Patriot Expert 5" 1911 .45 cal				
	Group Size (inches)			Average
Load (Make, Bullet Weight, Type)	1	2	3	
Armscor 230gr FMJ	4.25	3.13	3.75	3.708
Black Hills New 230gr FMJ	2.25	2.938	2.563	2.583
Black Hills Remanufactured 230gr FMJ	2.00	2.19	3.00	2.396
Delta Precision 230gr FMJ	3.50	3.50	2.44	3.146
PMC 230gr FMJ	3.31	4.63	6.88	4.938
PMC 185gr JHP	2.88	2.63	2.13	2.542
PMC 200gr SWC	4.25	2.38	3.06	3.229
Winchester 185gr FMJ	3.63	3.13	3.44	3.396
Winchester 170gr Super Clean JSP	2.38	3.00	4.44	3.271
Average of all groups: 3.24537				
Notes: Accuracy results are 10 shot groups from HAMMR Handgun Rest at 25 yards. 83 degrees,				

5 Shot Group Tests				
Dan Wesson Patriot Expert 5" 1911 .45 cal				
	Group Size (inches)			Average
Load (Make, Bullet Weight, Type)	1	2	3	
Black Hills New 230gr FMJ	2.25	2.563	1.625	2.146
Black Hills Remanufactured 230gr FMJ	1.63	1.50	1.50	1.542
PMC 230gr FMJ	3.31	2.50	1.50	2.438
Average of all groups: 2.0417				
Notes: Accuracy results are 5 shot groups from HAMMR Handgun Rest at 25 yards. 83 degrees.				

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but a five-round group of just 2.438, for a variance of 2.5" or 51 percent!

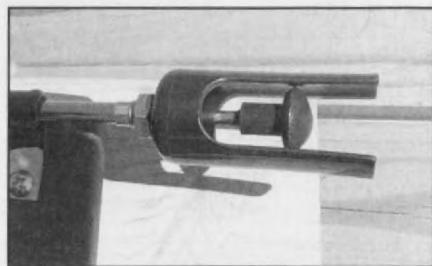
Obviously, the 10-round group better reveals the true accuracy of the handgun/ammo combination, which tells me to give more credibility to handgun reviews that use 10-round groups from a handgun rest.

HAMMR Features

The HAMMR metal parts are cast out of ductile iron chosen for rigidity, durability, and ability to reduce minor flex in the product. One of the HAMMR designers, Tim Mooreo, explained that aluminum would have been more expensive to use because it would take more aluminum to produce the same rigidity found in ductile iron parts.

The return to battery mechanism is a gas piston that provides 20 pounds of resisting force. Caldwell used a .500 Smith and Wesson to stress test the piston and that monstrous handgun did not cause the cylinder in the piston to fully retract. The piston is

designed to last for more than 200,000 cycles. My piston during the break-in period leaked several drops of oil. If a piston has a leak in the seal and loses too much oil then its resisting force will drop to where it cannot effectively return the rest back to battery. Contacting Caldwell, I discovered the rest I had received was one of the original handgun rests where some of them had this problem. The HAMMR handgun rest has since been corrected. Caldwell replaced my HAMMR handgun rest with a new rest where the piston does not leak.



Trigger activator in detail.

The automated return-to-battery feature that the piston provides was chosen for several interesting reasons.



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Four Useful Tips For Using The HAMMR:

1. Buy a 2 x 4 board to mount the HAMMR to. This allows enough depth to counter flush the bolts that connect the HAMMR to the board.
2. The bigger the C clamps, the better. Mounting the HAMMR to a table can require a large amount of clearance.
3. Adjust the pivot arm screw after every 10-shot group to ensure the screw did not come loose, which can affect accuracy.
4. Mount the HAMMR to the heaviest table you can find on the range because the recoil from the handgun could move the table, ruining your results.

The first was for safety. Caldwell's researchers observed testers using a Ransom rest (which must be put back into battery manually) and noted that testers had a tendency to put their hand on the pistol to shove it back forward into battery, potentially crossing the muzzle with their hand. They also wanted to remove human intervention from resetting the rest in hopes of getting more consistent groups. The use of an automated return to battery mechanism also speeds up the use of the rest.

The automated return to battery also provides the additional benefit of allowing the user to be in a remote position (potentially behind a shield) with their only interaction with the rest being the cable trigger release. The month I got the HAMMR I saw a cowboy competition shooter have his single action .38 Special explode, taking off two of its cylinders. A week later a 1911 exploded in a shooter's hand from a double charge. These incidents convinced me to start using the HAMMR and its remote as a natural safety habit when testing reloads.

The HAMMR's trigger release resembles an old-fashioned cable remote one would use with a manual 35mm

camera. The cable acts on a bar that touches the trigger and is activated by pressing a knob at the end of the cable with your thumb. A shroud protects the knob that you press to fire, helping prevent accidental discharges.

The HAMMR accepts both HAMMR grips and Ransom rest grips. HAMMR currently has grip inserts for the 1911; the Colt, Freedom Arms, and Ruger Single Action revolvers; the Beretta 92, 92S, 92SB/F; the HK USP 9mm & 40; the S&W K-Frame revolvers; Para-Ordnance, Glock, Sig Sauer P226 & P210 autos. The Caldwell grip inserts are made of urethane that is about the same durometer (an indicator of hardness in rubber-like materials) as the Ransom rest grips. Caldwell even offers a universal grip casting kit for the fairly obscure handgun models that they will never make grip inserts for.

The Bottom Line:

The HAMMR has a MSRP of \$179.99 with a one-year warranty. Grip inserts are sold separately for

\$34.99. A quick check of Brownells.com showed the Ransom Rest for handguns retailing for \$437 with one set of 1911 inserts. Additional inserts were selling for \$54 a set.

After shooting hundreds of rounds from the HAMMR I have confidence the grip inserts, grip bolts, and finger-tightened nuts firmly hold the pistol in place without moving. The major challenge is finding a bench heavy enough and with enough surfaces to anchor the handgun rest with C clamps. Also, that pivot arm screw has to be monitored after and tightened regularly (check it at the beginning of each string). The trigger activator gives the ability to precisely take up slack in the trigger and pull the trigger smoothly. I look forward to discovering with confidence the accuracy potential of my handgun and ammunition combinations with the HAMMR handgun rest.



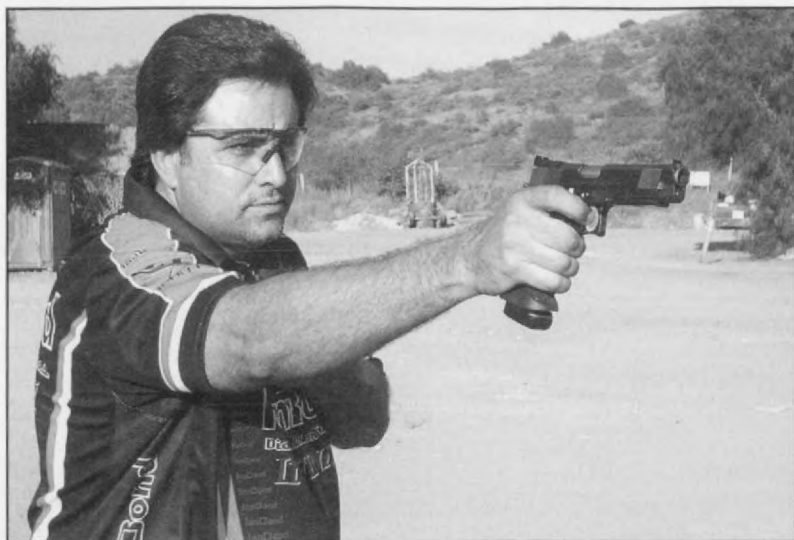
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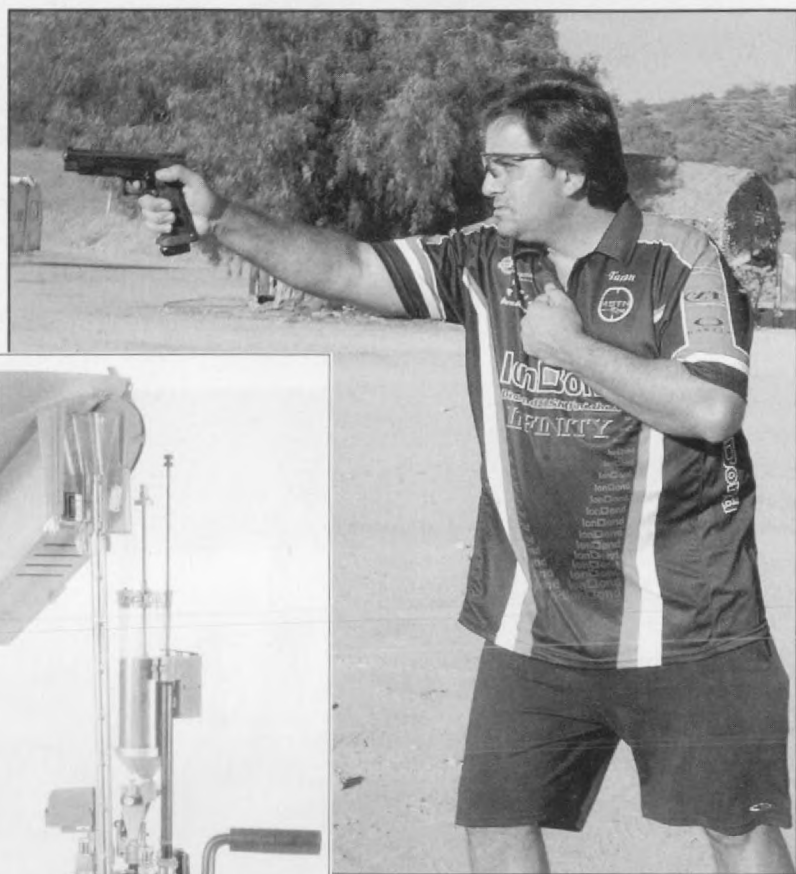
CONVERSATIONS WITH USPSA'S TOP GUNS

resents SVI. Taran's Southern California roots include family ties to the film industry, which continue to this day. Taran has trained actors in firearm handling for their on-screen roles, and trains members of the United States military as well.

As fate would have it, I had work to do not far from Taran's home, so I thought I would call on him and ask some questions. I told Taran I was impressed

BY PAUL BENSON, TY-45006

I recently had the chance to spend the day with California speed demon Taran Butler. Taran is a USPSA Grand Master, IDPA master, GSSF master, and outright terror on the 3-Gun circuit. He won his first national title in 2003 (3-Gun Limited), won the 2005 and 2006 Rocky Mountain 3-Gun matches, and has won the USPSA Multi-Gun "Tactical" title from 2004-2006. (That's every single year it's been available, by the way.) He's a permanent fixture in the USPSA "Super Squad" at the Limited Nationals, where he rep-



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with his shooting at the West Coast Dual Single Stack/Production match, especially his strong-hand and weak-hand shooting. I've always struggled with this sort of shooting, and Taran was kind enough to share some tips to help me improve in this critical area.

Strong Hand Shooting

Stance:

Imagine your normal freestyle

shooting stance. Typically, the strong-hand foot is even with the weak hand foot, or set six to ten inches behind it. This provides a very stable stance. Taran's first suggestion is, "put your strong leg forward, flex at the knee and put more weight on the leg. Yep, this seems the exact opposite of our usual stance, but it offers a very stable platform which supports the upper body."

Target Acquisition:

As I was discussing strong hand shooting with Taran, he asked, "How do you generate more power, with a round house punch?" He demonstrated that a swing originating from the strong side and moving to the weak side of the body generates more power and thus is a strong orientation. The shooter should start with the target on the strong side of the array with the first shot and proceed to the weak side of the array for the last shot.

Make sure your weak hand is securely placed on your chest to provide the most stable shooting platform. Nothing will throw your shots off more than having your weak arm swinging around between shots. STABILIZE THAT ARM.

Grip

A right-handed shooter has a tendency to shoot a little to the left of the point of aim. There are two ways to compensate for this: 1) aim more to the right and 2) slightly cant the gun inward. Taran recommends option 2. Try it!

Weak Hand Shooting

Stance

Here, Taran suggests setting your body up just the way you would for strong hand, only with the weak side leading.

"Put your weak leg forward, flex at the knee and put more weight on the leg. A little more weight on the weak-hand leg may be helpful."

Grip

As with strong-hand, the weak-

hand grip is critical. Acquiring the correct grip for weak-hand may require some experimentation. Most shooters have a dominant eye and hand that are the same. Right-handed shooters are often right-eye dominant. This allows for a more natural alignment of eye, hand, and sights. However, this can create an awkward grip for weak-hand shooting. When you practice, if weak-hand field particularly awkward, Taran says, "try canting the gun."

Tilt the front sight towards the dominant eye. This technique works

well for most shooters.

Taran cautions, "tilting the gun too much can cause the point of aim to be very different than the point of impact, particularly at longer ranges." You will want to practice these techniques at various ranges to determine how much your point of impact is moving relative to your point of aim.

Feel free to e-mail me with questions or suggested topics for future GM Tips at pibenson45@aol.com.



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TARGETING EDUCATION

SECOND ANNUAL CHARITY MATCH COMES TO ROMULUS, MICH.

By JAMES TARR, A-25200



The second Annual Agnus Dei Targeting Education Charity Match, benefiting the children's scholarship fund of the Agnus Dei Academy, was held this past July at the Raccoon Hunters Shooting Club in Romulus, Mich. Just minutes north of Detroit's Metropolitan Air-

port (proudly voted worst in the country many years running), the club is the oldest raccoon hunting club in the state and just recently started hosting both IDPA and IPSC events.

The Level III, 10-stage, 222-round match hosted 124 shooters over three

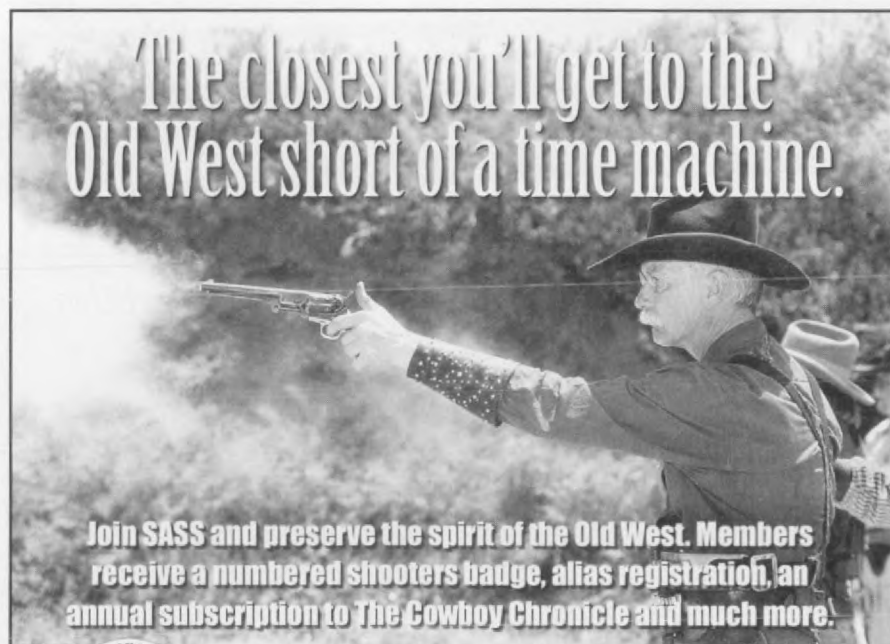
Open match winner K.C.Eusebio sprints for the finish line on Stage 5, "Though I Walk Through the Valley."

days — a serious improvement over the 96 it attracted in its inaugural year. Throughout the three days of shooting, the temperatures hovered in the mid-90s, but luckily it was really, really humid, so nobody had to worry about dry or cracked skin. Everybody developed very interesting sweat patterns, sort of like those ink-blot tests psychiatrists give. Mine looked like a smiley face....I'm not sure what that means.


The heat, while uncomfortable, could have been a lot worse. Between each shooting bay there was a canopy for shade, and fans, the space in front of which was packed with shooters looking like they were waiting for someone to throw a bouquet.

Once again the schoolkids whom the match is designed to benefit were out in force, doing whatever they could to help. Last year that was picking up brass and running score sheets; this year, it was mostly selling Gatorade and water. One cute little girl, who couldn't have weighed more than 50 pounds, was hawking the Gatorade in a voice loud enough to sell peanuts at Yankee Stadium. It was so loud and high, in fact, that a shooter,

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Mel Campbell ROs one of the revolver shooters on Stage 8, Holy Smoke!!!

loaded and in the box, thought she was the timer going off, and it nearly caused the RO a heart attack.

The Army team shot on Friday, and then Max Michel hosted a class the next day, walking the shooters through each stage, dispensing his hard-won wisdom. Everyone attending the match remarked how fun and well-designed the stages were, requiring well-rounded shooting skills if you wanted a respectable finish. Stage 5, "Though I Walk Through the Valley," was a good example of this. There was a zig-zagging hallway with doorways and ports, open targets at point-blank range, distant targets partially obscured behind no-shoots and barrels, and five plates that could be seen from three different positions. When I was shooting the stage a piece of bullet jacket came back off one of the plates (ALWAYS wear eye protection!) and hit me in the ear hard enough for blood to start flowing, which totally messed up my concentration on the rest of the plates, not to mention the entire stage. Something like that makes you appreciate how much harder it is to hit a target that's shooting back—although if we'd been in Iraq, it would have been even HOTTER, and we'd all have been wearing 60 pounds of armor and gear. Of course, in Iraq, it's a dry heat . . .

Stage 6, The Walls of Jericho (which some shooters thought should have been named Exercise In Frustration), featured 14 "Classic" targets hid-

den behind walls and barrels in a vague U-shaped pattern. I must have seen competitors shoot it ten different ways, including running uprange sideways while engaging targets—now that was scary to watch, someone running at me while shooting, although nobody got DQ'ed. I don't know if any one solution was better than another. The stage was designed by some of our Canadian brothers, which explains the French targets.

Stage 9, Genesis, was a smoking 22-round field course with two poppers, a swinger, a drop-turner, and many no-shoot-obscured targets engaged at close range around walls and through a door. Shooters observed that the steel activators on this stage were a bit slow, and discussion of whether or not to double- or triple-tap the steel could be heard in almost every squad.

Stage 10, Stairway To Heaven, was an interesting, quick 22-round field course featuring two drop-turners. Limited and Open shooters just ran it as fast as they could pull the trigger, but for the Limited-10 and Production shooters held to ten rounds per mag, there was serious and extended discussion about whether to shoot at both DTs. If you didn't, you could save yourself a reload, but would the hit factor be higher? Whenever shooting involves a stopwatch and a calculator my eyes begin to cross. The stage winner in Production shot both DTs, but the winner in L-10 shot neither. Go figure.

The 124 competitors were nearly evenly divided among Open, Limited, Limited-10, and Production, with an-

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other nine shooters split between Revolver and Single Stack divisions. Travis Tomasi walked away with the win in Limited, and Max Michel smoked the rest of the competition in L-10. Production Division saw the fiercest fighting for the top spot, with less than 1.4 percent separating the top four finishers. Steve Moneypenny won only one stage but ended up winning overall in Production simply by shooting a smooth, clean match with no penalty points. K.C. Eusebio earned the title in Open, Dennis Smith



Lee Dimaculangan blazes away on Stage 4, "Choose the Righteous Path," while RO Cameron Lange looks on. The Army's Max Michel was also in attendance.

won in Revolver, and Gary Stevens took the gold in Single Stack.

again raised thousands of dollars for a good cause and promises to be a fun match again next year.

The Targeting Education match

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MAILBAG continued from page 2.

most of the shooters are, Dave Stanford is among them.

Rick Brenman, A-25565

Bravo Bob and Ingi Londrigan!

Dear Editor,

I would like to recognize the contribution of Bob and Ingi Londrigan at Brazos Custom. I have been reading some back issues of Front Sight lately and have really enjoyed their columns. They are consistently full of useful and interesting information presented in a way that anyone can understand. Thank you for sharing your considerable wealth of information with the USPSA community. This unselfish contribution that stands out in the typically tight-lipped gunsmithing community is remarkable and commendable. You are truly an asset to our sport and deserve recognition and appreciation for your efforts to support USPSA, Front Sight, and its readers.

David Gardner, A-55191

Stop The Flip-Flopping!

Dear *Front Sight* Editors and Val,

I don't make a habit of sending in comments to gun publications regarding their format or content, but felt compelled to after reading the latest USPSA column "Bulletin Board" by Ms. Val Reule. Val, if I may, asked us USPSA members for comments regarding the USPSA Front Sight magazine.

I don't know where all of you read the Front Sight, but as an American Handgunner author states I read mine, and other related gun magazines, while sitting in the "library of higher education." While sitting there with both hands free, I begin my journey through the various articles. Now let me take you through this journey using the latest edition, September/October 2006, as an example.

I begin on page 2, continue on page 23, then return to page 2.

Read page 3, wow, this one was short...no continuance.

Page 4, continued on page 74. Turn pages over to page 74, continue the read to the end. Back to page 4.

On page 5, "From the Editor" by Dave Thomas is a good read, but here we go again...continued on page 11, then back to page 5.

Page 6 is "Bulletin Board" by Val Reule...continued on page 22, then back to page 6.

Now onto page 7, "Focus on Juniors" by Larry Houck, continued on page 9. Return to page 7.

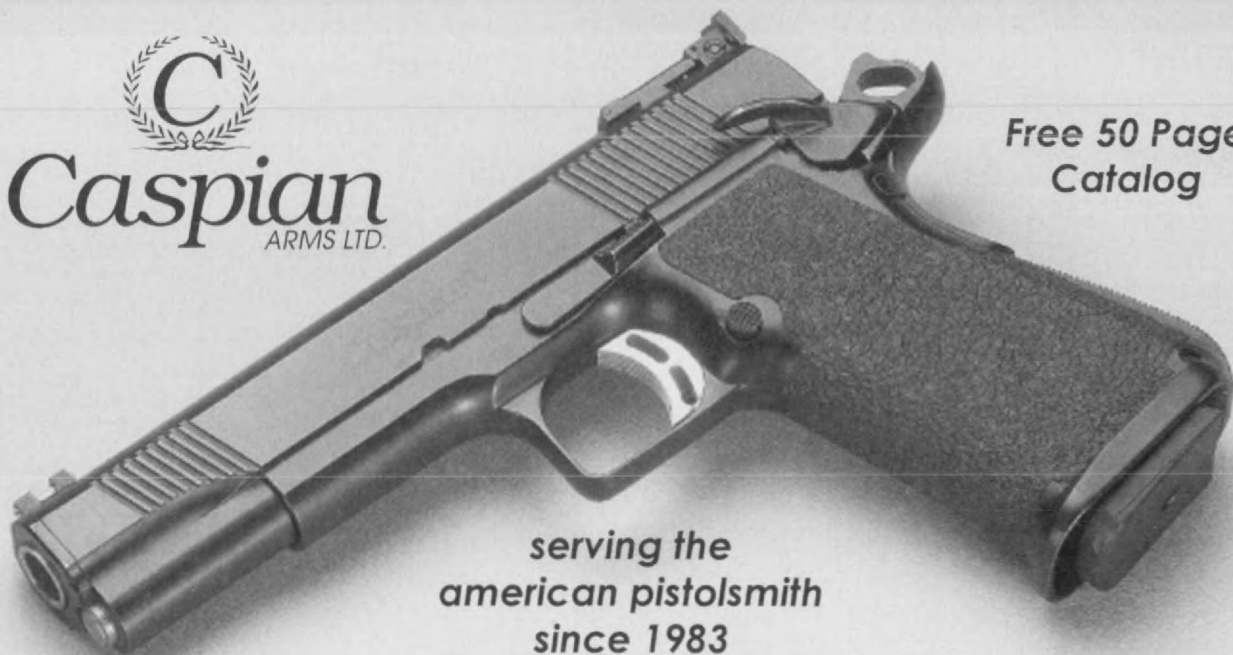
Phew, I don't know about you...but I can't wait to get out of this library.

Once the columns are read I move on to the wonderful practical shooting articles. Now the articles continue page to page and only get interrupted by either advertisements or "column" con-

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tinuations from the above readings.

Now here is my suggestion:

From what I see, Front Sight is broken into columns, articles, and advertisements. Start the magazine off with columns and continue the columns from beginning to end on page to page, then to complete the page the column ended on with advertisements. Continue fresh (and on top) on next page with next column. Once columns are completed, move onto articles, again from page to page until completed, closing the article page with advertisements...all this until the Front sight is complete. Now all you have to do is open the cover cover, go on to page 2, then 3, then 4, then 5...wow this is now becoming a user-friendly and readable magazine. Why not start a new trend in editing?

Now all we can hope for is to get American Handgunner and other gun magazines to follow suit?

Just thinking out loud!

Sincerely,

Mark Ruschak, A-26587

Hey Mark,

Thanks for the feedback! Magazine layout is very much an "art," and I make no claims to being a layout "artist." In college my professors advocated avoiding "large blocks of grey." From them I learned that people tend to key on "handles" in the text, like drop caps, bolded words, pictures, paragraph breaks, or captions. If you hand them a big block of text with no "handles," odds are they'll hand it back without reading it.

Our columns generally come in without photos, so I tend to jump the text to the back as a way to break up their big "grey" appearance.

That said, I'm with you, all this page-flipping gets a little old. I'll try to tighten the jumps up a bit.

Robin Taylor, Assistant Editor

Wrong Emphasis?

We received a handful of letters and

comments about our recent two-part series on USPSA/IPSC's formative days. Some (amid much laughter) relayed memories too colorful to repeat in a family magazine, while others were more historical in nature. The following letter was sent to us by Dave Arnold, one of USPSA's original stalwarts, relating his memories of those formative years.

Robin,

I find myself compelled to point out several inaccuracies in the USPSA history article in the recent issue. Having been heavily involved in the formation of USPSA please allow me to offer additional information. The 1980 and 1981 U.S. Nationals were conducted at the Lafayette Gun Club in Yorktown, VA. After our club hosted the 1980 match the competitors asked if we would consider doing it again the following year, the first time back-to-back Nationals were conducted. At the annual Section Coordinator's meeting in 1981 Col. Jeff Cooper was questioned about several of his decisions regarding the management of practical shooting in the United States. Heavily involved in the questioning were Mike Dalton, Mickey Fowler and Mike Fichman of the Southwest Combat Pistol League in California. Col. Cooper at some point refused to answer any further questions and left the meeting. Subsequent to his departure an election was held for a new Regional Director. Jake Jatras of Sioux City Iowa was elected to the post.

You are correct that in this period of development practical shooting in the U.S. was a mixture of clubs with varying levels of skill or knowledge of IPSC principles. The problem was magnified as Mr. Jatras began to attend matches and meetings outside the U.S. with his new duties. He pointed out in his newspaper Combat Shooter's Report that the other IPSC member nations had a unified organization that managed the operation of practical shooting, assured the use of current rules, and provided extensive training for range officials. In September 1982 the Soldier of Fortune Match was conducted in Charlotte, NC., and was at-

tended by many IPSC competitors. Mr. Jatras called a meeting of any interested individuals during the event who would be interested in discussing the development of a formal organization to manage U.S. practical shooting functions. It was determined by those in attendance that an individual membership organization, such as those proven effective in the majority of other IPSC regions, would be the best course of action to improve the operation of competitions in the U.S.

It was agreed that a group of volunteers would serve as an organizing body to accomplish the formation of an individual membership operation, and that the group would serve for a maximum of two years. It was felt that in two years the organization should be functioning at a level that would allow formal elections to take place. The name selected for this new beginning was USPSA. It was also determined that at the two year mark the Regional Director and the head of USPSA would be the same person. I agreed to serve as Director, Bill Rogers of Florida was Vice-Director, and Lloyd Harper of Virginia agreed to serve as Treasurer. Dave Churilla of South Carolina shouldered the important task of developing the National Range Officers Institute, with much assistance from our neighbors in Canada, and Walter Rauch and Ken Hackathorn served as advisors-at-large. USPSA officially started operations on November 1, 1982. The first USPSA sanctioned match was the 1983 Florida Open.

Mr. Jatras gave the organization free space for publicity in Combat Shooters Report and introduced the concept to many of those attending the 1983 SHOT SHOW. The 1982 U.S. Nationals were held at the Milan Rifle Club in Milan, IL., and introduced the use of certified range officials to a national event in the U.S. The Nationals also brought about many new members who liked what was developing with USPSA. The next big test was when USPSA served as host for the 1983 IPSC World Shoot conducted at the Lafayette Gun Club of Virginia in

MEMBERS' MAILBAG continued on page 78.

Safety Area



BY KIM WILLIAMS, USPSA STAFF

It's no secret that there are good people in this organization. You see it all the time; you hear about it on a regular basis. If you don't, you're trying not to. Shooters who lose everything in a house fire suddenly find themselves the subject of a series of benefit matches in which all proceeds go toward the reconstruction of a new home. A guy going through a tough divorce and really down on his

luck gets that all-too important phone call on the darkest of days to go out and blow some steam at the range with some good ol' shootin' buddies who just seemed to know that today was one of those days.



It's all those little things. And the really big ones too. I've heard stories in my six years here. I've heard my fair share of complaints and gripes and sheesh-can-you-believe-the-nerve-of-this-guy! But I've heard far more of the other stories. Those stories that warm the cockles and remind you that you even had cockles. Cockles of the heart: (noun) the depths of one's emotions or feelings: The happy family scene warmed the cockles of his heart.

Rich Carroll was one of those people. He was a good guy, a "good ol' boy," and one of a kind. He's left behind a legacy of memories that would be impossible to forget and his presence within the organization will be felt for years to come.

Remembering Rich Carroll

Illinois' Quiet, Humorous, Friend.

Ken Kempker, New Tournament Director

BY KEN KEMPKER, EDITED

I live in a little town about 45 minutes north of Quincy Ill, called Hamilton, population 3300. Hamilton has one traffic light, and a half a yellow page. My wife's name is Jolene, and I have three children: Ken III, Jessica, and Kelsey who just worked as an RO at her first National Championship, plus one dog, and the wife has two cats.

I started shooting IPSC at a local club in about 1996 that was hosting a charity match. I was pretty much hooked after the first stage. I have always enjoyed pulling the trigger; and this match fueled the fire. In 1997 I took a level one course with some other local members, so we could better understand what we could get away with. In 2001 I took one of the first correspondence courses for the CRO program with Perry Wilson as my mentor, which was pretty cool because I had worked as an RO on Perry's stage at the nationals the year before I started the course. It seemed like the CRO course was a lot easier after working with Perry for a week that year.

In about 2003, I was interested in the RM program but there was not an opening. Because three of my four sisters had battled breast cancer, and my younger sister just lost a nine-year fight with cancer, I had been kicking around an idea for a charity match for breast cancer. I then decided to go through the Tournament Director program, but at that time the TD program was being revised because of rule

changes. Meanwhile, some of the local club members and I put together the first Shoot for Life Charity Match for breast cancer. The match went well, but I felt it could have been better.

Some time after the 2004 Shoot for Life match I received the materials for the TD program and jumped in. What a help! Man, having the input of people who have cut their teeth producing major matches makes a match run a lot smoother — it completely removes the trial and error part of putting together a match. I highly recommend anybody interested in producing a match to do the TD program!

In October 2005 we produced the second "Shoot for Life" Match, with only one minor glitch, but everything went smoothly, as competitors we all know smooth is good.

The 2006 "Shoot for Life" will not happen this year because of the passing of my mother earlier this year. I ended up putting a lot of projects on hold. But October 12 and 13, 2007 promises to be better than ever. Hope to see you there! You won't be disappointed!



Rich Carroll, 62, passed away Sunday, August 6, 2006 in Charleston, Illinois. Born August 27, 1943 at Chicago, Ill., he is survived by one daughter, one son, and four grandchildren. Richard was a U.S. Air Force veteran. He retired from the Physical Plant at EIU (Eastern Illinois University). Previously, he had worked for U.S. Steel in Chicago and Gary. He was a lifetime member of PASA, the NRA, and the Hutton Township Volunteer Fire Department. In addition, he was a tireless volunteer for the 4H clubs and other youth organizations there. He requested that memorials in his honor be made to the Hutton Township Volunteer Fire Department or Coles County 4-H Extension.

I had the honor of attending the memorial for him held at PASA Park on the evening of Sept. 13th, during the National Championship. The staff gathered on one of the lower stages after competition had completed for the day to remember Rich and raise a toast in his honor. Stories were passed around like a secret handshake from person to person and though there were more than a few tears from those who knew him best, there were also a great many smiles and laughs as people relayed their favorite anecdotes and Rich-isms. Among the laughter and tears, those who knew him best remembered Rich warmly.

NROI Instructor and multiple National Match Director, Ray Hirst said, "You know how you always remember where you were when certain things happened in America's history? Things like when JFK was shot, 9/11 etc. I'll always remember where I was when I heard about the 9/11 attacks. I was setting up for the 2001 Factory Gun Nationals and Rich Carroll and Deb Hawkins were helping me up on top of the hill at PASA on the last pistol bay.

George Metcalf drove up on his quad runner to inform us that someone had flown a plane into the twin towers. Shortly after

REMEMBERING RICH continued on page 75.

Photos by Kim Williams.

Memorial service, and memorial stair built for Rich at PASA following the 2006 National Championship.



Are You Ready? *Da!*

PRACTICAL SHOOTING IN RUSSIA

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY YURI "GROSSFATER MULLER" DANILOV, TRANSLATED FROM RUSSIAN BY MAXIM POPENKER



Practical shooting as a sport discipline first emerged in post-Soviet Russia in the late 1990s. It is interesting that first IPSC shooters were not from large cities such as Moscow or St. Petersburg, but rather from the small town of Magnitogorsk, located in Ural region, on the edge between Asia and Europe.

A small group of local enthusiasts in 1998 joined IPSC, and the first Russian IPSC championship took place in 1999. Later that year a Russian team participated in World Shoot XII in the Philippines. The second Russian championship took place in 2000, and from that time on this event has been held annually.

The Russian IPSC community is severely affected by local gun laws. The key limitation of law is that ordinary citizens are not permitted to own handguns – only shotguns and rifles are allowed. Private security companies can purchase handguns, but the choice is severely limited by the maximum power level set by law (300 Joules / 220 Foot-pounds). Therefore, ordinary citizens can compete only in long

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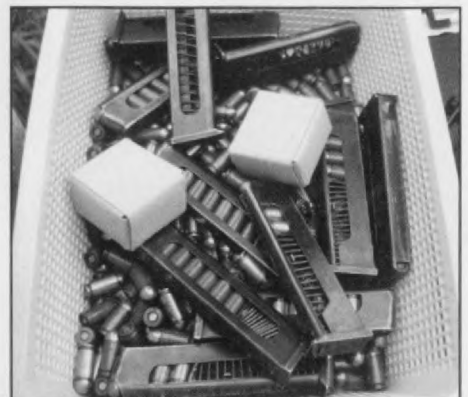
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gun disciplines, leaving handguns to law enforcement and private security personnel.

Because of those legal limitations, the most popular IPSC discipline is shotgun. Most popular brands are locally-made semi-automatics such as the "Saiga" (in 12 and 20 gauge), Baikal MP-153, and Bekas-12. The most dominant western brand is Benelli. Pump shotguns are somewhat less popular because of lower rate of fire, but are also present in all matches. Local brands also dominate this division, with some American guns also being present, such as Remington, Mossberg, and Winchester. Recently, Russian shooters were introduced to Turkish-made shotguns (such as Stoeger and Hatsan) which, in terms of price and quality, are placed between Western and Russian guns.

Rifle division is dominated by two local brands – Saiga and Vepr, both being "civilized" conversions of military weapons: the AK assault rifle and RPK light machine gun respectively. Originally made in "hunting" configurations, with semi-pistol gripped or skeletonized stocks, presently those rifles are also produced in para-military styles, with pistol grips, short barrels and AK-type folding polymer stocks. Basic rifles are made in a variety of calibers, but Russian IPSC shooters prefer



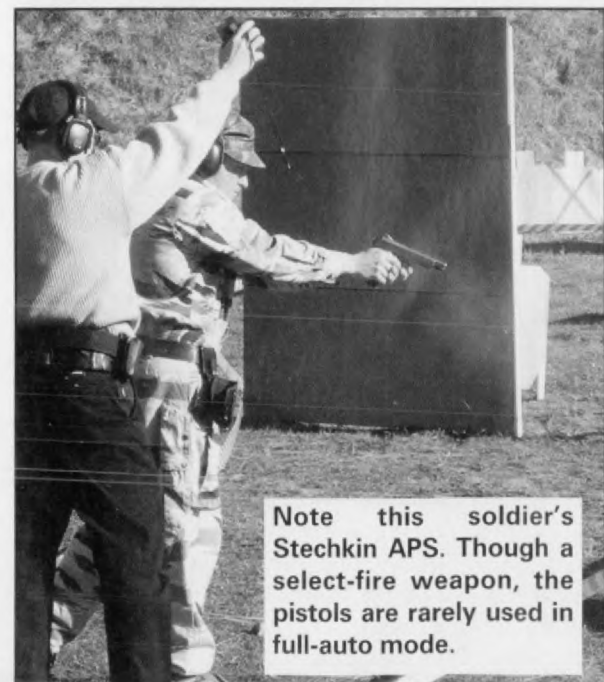
Above, left, and below left: Competitors at the 2003 Russian Police IPSC Open drive their Stechkin APS's at flank speed. The Stechkins are popular thanks to their accuracy, ammo capacity, and controllable high-speed fire.

either "domestic" 7.62x39 or "Western" .223 Rem calibers. Western rifles are present only in small numbers, mostly because of their high price – typical AR-15 clones run for at least \$2,000 US, and Steyr AUG-Z (semiautomatic version of Austrian assault rifle) for at least two times more. That said, this is a developing area, the first official rifle match in Russia under IPSC rules took place only in 2003.

As said above, until recently handgun matches were held only for private security and law enforcement personnel. Private security, being limited by maximum energy level, almost exclusively uses pistols chambered for 9x17 Short (.380ACP). Among those, the undisputable favorite is the Izh-71, a re-chambered version of the venerable Makarov PM pistol, which is still a general issue sidearm of Russian police and Army.

Police and military personnel have a somewhat wider choice of arms – during early matches the most predominant pistols were either the Makarov PM or the bigger and

much more accurate Stechkin APS, both chambered for 9x18 PM round. The APS pistol, which was briefly produced in the USSR during the first half of the 1950s, is still a favorite weapon for most operatives of various OMON and SOBR SWAT-type units because of its smooth recoil, good accuracy, and



Note this soldier's Stechkin APS. Though a select-fire weapon, the pistols are rarely used in full-auto mode.



Ever tried "parachute suspended?" That's the author dangling in the yellow harness at a rifle match. He is armed with an AK-style Saiga semi-automatic carbine in 7.62x39 – a mainstay weapon of Russian practical rifle shooting.

20-round capacity. Other guns are also present in handgun matches, ranging from the venerable 7.62mm Tokarev TT to the most modern Russian 9x19mm pistols such as the PYa and GSh-18. Several law enforcement teams that participate in international matches also shoot western pistols such as the CZ-75 or Glock-17.

Recently, the Russian IPSC federation forced the government to recognize practical shooting as an "official" sport discipline. Therefore, it is possible to form shooting clubs that can purchase handguns officially classified as "sporting." So far, the most popular "practical shooting" handgun is the MP-446 Viking, a polymer-framed, 18-shot (magazines are limited to 10 shots for Russian market) pistol chambered

for 9x19 ammunition. Unfortunately, only registered clubs and sport organizations can purchase this weapon – ordinary citizens still cannot own handguns.

Practical shooting is a fast-growing sport here. During the first half of 2006, at least 10 large matches were held, with more being scheduled for the end of the year. IPSC organizations are registered in at least 50 regions of Russia, and this sport is routinely covered by publications in various Russian gun magazines. Russian shooters won two European and three Northern European matches, despite the fact that all Russian shooters shot rented guns.

Practical shooting is used to train



The Yarygin PYa, an all-steel DA/SA pistol in 9x19 with 17-round magazine. Winner of the "Grach" trials, the PYa is to replace the obsolescent Makarov pistol. Unfortunately, the guns remain relatively rare.

personnel of several law enforcement agencies in Russia, and special matches are held for police and military personnel under IPSC rules.

Russian Gun Laws At A Glance

By MAXIM POPENKER

The minimum age for firearm ownership is 18. All firearms may be bought only with a permit, which is issued by local police, and all firearms are subject to registration after purchase. Failure to register a newly-bought gun within a specified amount of time (10 business days) may result in a fine and, possibly, cancellation of the firearm permit.

All civilian long guns must either have barrels longer than 50 cm (20") or overall length longer than 80 cm (32"). If the firearm has a folding stock, and, when folded, it fails to fit these criteria, it must have an automatic lock which will block fire unless the butt is unfolded. Maximum magazine capacity is 10 rounds, full automatic fire and silencers are completely illegal.

Since soviet times, the rifle was considered as an instrument of professional hunters, therefore rifle ownership (regardless of caliber) has additional limitations. To apply for a rifle permit, a Russian citizen must either be a professional hunter or possess a shotgun for at least five years.

It must be noted that until recently



Some servicemen, and virtually all private security personnel (including these two) use Makarov PMs or look-alike .380 ACP Izh-71's — NOT the best option for IPSC. Note the IROA official in the background.

all long guns were considered as hunting by law. Only after the fall of the USSR was it officially recognized that long guns also can be used to protect someone's life. Therefore, a "tacticalized" Saiga-12 12-gauge semiautomatic, which is considered an "assault shotgun" in the United States, is sold in Russia on the same terms as a trap over-and-under or ancient side-by-side.

The same applies to rifles – there is no legal distinction between single-shot .22LR sporter, a 7.62mm semi-

automatic Tiger (a civilized copy of Dragunov SVD sniper rifle), or a semi-automatic clone of an assault rifle, be that a Russian Saiga-AK, American AR-15, or Austrian Steyr AUG.

One additional limitation, imposed by law on rifle shooters in Russia, is prohibition of ammunition reloading. This prohibition has no logical sense, but the same observation applies to many other bits of Russian legislation. Reloading of shotgun ammunition, on the other hand, is completely legal.

The Stechkin APS

Oddball 1950s Weapon Now A Popular Choice Among Russian Military Pistols Used For IPSC

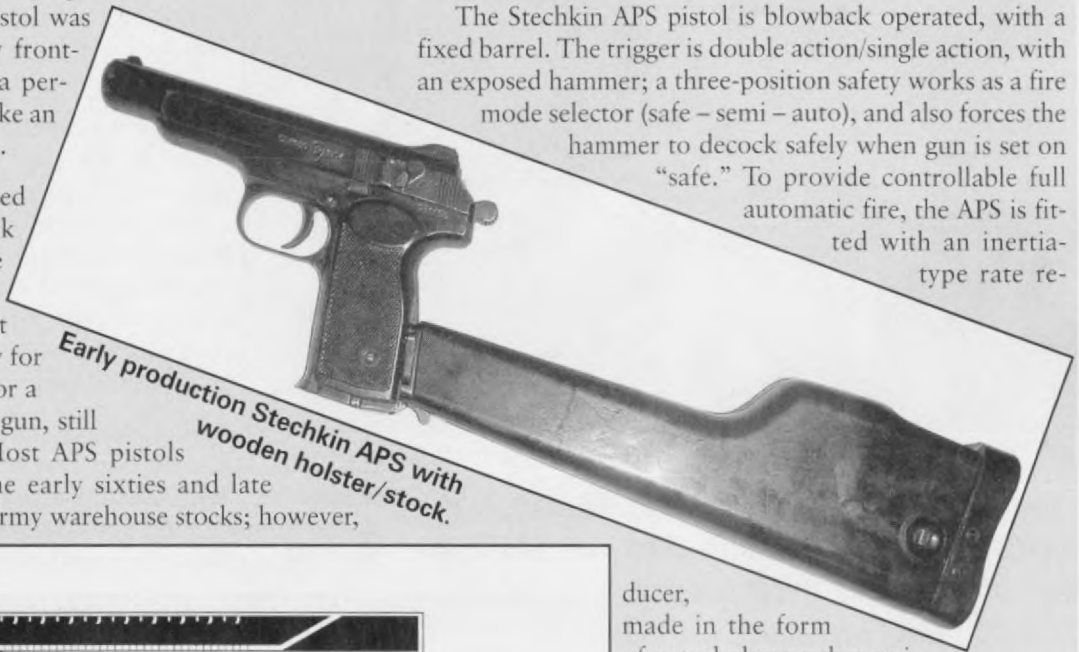
By MAXIM POPENKER (RUSSIA)

The APS pistol could in some respects be considered the first "Wondernine" – the high capacity, double action, nine-millimeter pistol. Also, in some respects, it was influenced by the pre-war machine pistols like the Mauser C96 Schnellfeuer, Astra Modelo F, or Star MM. Designed by Igor Stechkin in Tula, this pistol was supposed to be used by front-line support troops as a personal defense weapon (like an FN P90 or M1 Carbine).

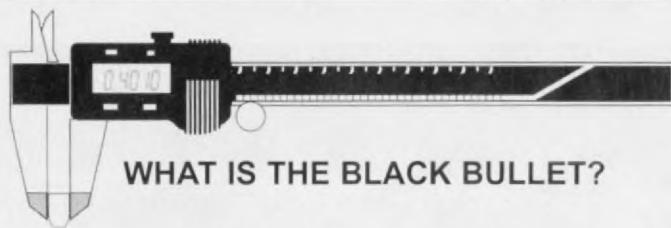
When originally issued to artillerymen, tank crews, and the like, the APS failed to fill a pre-determined niche, as it was too bulky and heavy for a pistol, and too weak for a carbine or sub-machine gun, still less an assault rifle. Most APS pistols spent years between the early sixties and late eighties stored deep in army warehouse stocks; however,

many of them were "liberated" and recalled for action during the turbulent eighties and nineties, when the fall of the USSR caused much commotion, including a rise in crime and various separatist movements. APS pistols are still favored by many operators of various OMON (SWAT-type) special purpose police units across Russia, mostly because of the large magazine capacity and great accuracy. In most cases, the original holsters/stocks are discarded and more conventional (faster and much lighter) soft holsters are substituted. Automatic fire is only used on very rare occasions, as the heavy weight and moderate-power ammunition allows for very quick and accurate semi-automatic fire.

The Stechkin APS pistol is blowback operated, with a fixed barrel. The trigger is double action/single action, with an exposed hammer; a three-position safety works as a fire mode selector (safe – semi – auto), and also forces the hammer to decock safely when gun is set on "safe." To provide controllable full automatic fire, the APS is fitted with an inertia-type rate re-



Early production Stechkin APS with wooden holster/stock.



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ducer, made in the form of a steel plunger that reciprocates up and down in the grip, just behind the magazine channel. When the pistol is fired in full automatic mode, at the end of its forward movement the slide hits the plunger and forces it down against its spring; at the same time, the hammer is held cocked by the automatic sear. Once the plunger completes its down-and-up cycle, it strikes the automatic sear to release the hammer and fire the next shot. The magazine is of the double-stack type with a double feed akin to the M-16. The magazine release is located at the base of the grip. Sights are of somewhat unusual design, with a fixed front and a range-adjustable rear. Rear sight adjustments are made by the rotation of a small drum, which has presets for 25, 50, 100, and 200 meters range. The grip is slotted and accepts a wooden (early production) or plastic holster, which then becomes a shoulder stock.

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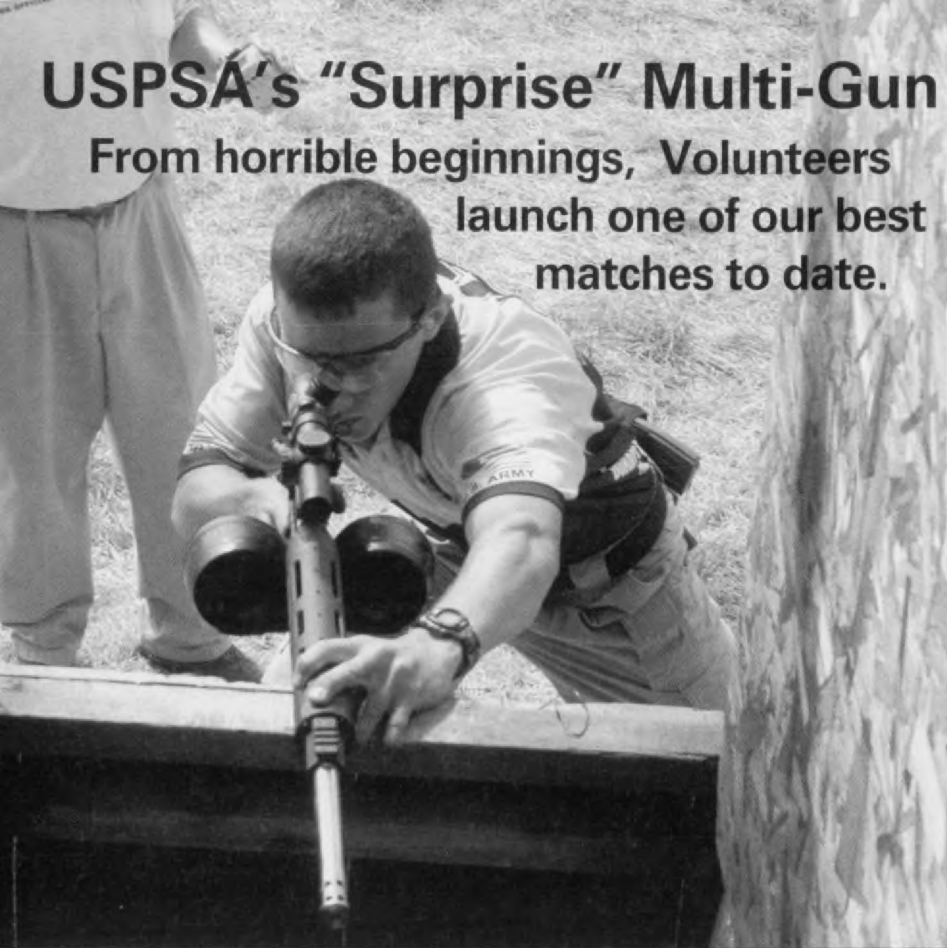
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USPSA's "Surprise" Multi-Gun

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lenges. "I've referred to it as the surprise match," he said. The first surprise was the sudden, unexpected announcement from the managers of the original range site that they were no longer interested in hosting. Right there what had been a reasonably relaxed schedule became a race to the match date.

Following the loss of the original venue, the Albany Rifle and Pistol Club stepped up as hosts — despite the fact that construction work on their range expansion was still in progress. Working off drawings for what the bays should look like, stage designers and stage builders worked in parallel, racing ahead toward match day.

Although the range was completed in time, the final bay dimensions were smaller than anticipated. By the time that became known, the stages had been approved. Fitting the now-oversize stages into the new bays necessitated last-minute changes and re-approvals as well as creative use of the available space. That process brought to light rules problems that required more changes. Once those changes were made, an adjacent landowner surprised everyone by

By DAVE THOMAS, L-796, USPSA ED

"The 2006 USPSA Multigun was absolutely the best, most balanced and well-run Multigun match that I have EVER been to, PERIOD." Geoffrey Linder, USPSA TY-11141, as posted on the Enos forum.

For the most part, all 142 competitors gathered in Albany, Oregon July 27-30 were in complete agreement. Area 2 Director Chris Endersby said of those who choose not to attend "...they screwed up because this was one of the best quality 3-Gun matches we have done. Great range and stages..."

USPSA President and Open Division Champion Michael Voigt heard little criticism of the stages and told us that the local people (with a special nod to Match Director Everett Mastrich, Range Master Tom Chambers and Columbia Cascade Section Coordinator Mike McCarter), did a wonderful job preparing the range and putting the match together.

Chambers acknowledged that this year's match was filled with special chal-

Daniel Horner (above) leapt into Tactical this year, appearing for the first time with the AMU. Meanwhile, Jerry Miculek again placed second in Open in the long-running see-saw rivalry between him and 2006 Open champ Michael Voigt.



deciding that the field earmarked for competitor parking would not be available at all. Stage designers started over again, fitting a parking lot into what had been shooting grounds. In the last hours leading up to the match, Tom Chambers and his crew were running a front-end loader, desperately arranging 2-ton concrete blocks to safely sub-divide the available space for the long-range rifle stage.

Did we mention that staff attrition was already a problem, with cancellations creating a significant shortage of range staff? Finally, just to add to the fun, the food vendor bailed out at the last minute, and a replacement had to be found.

Match production is frequently like watching sausage being made. If you enjoy the end product — don't watch the process. Chambers said, "For a long time I've been able to reach into the hat and pull a rabbit, but I always wonder when I'll reach in and find no rabbits." The ultimate compliment to the match staff is that the competitors were, for the most part, completely unaware of any of these problems.

Multigun competitions require distance to properly test rifle skills. Wind, mirage, dust, bullet drop and other elements only come into play when there is significant physical distance between muzzle and target. Stage 12, named "H M L," became Chambers' great triumph over adversity, creatively taking advantage of some modest range contours in the back of the range


Mark Hanish charges ahead. Like Horner, Hanish surprised many. Hanish finished fourth overall in Tactical.




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property, while safely blocking out any possible conflicts with the parking area. Linder's reaction to the stage was, "The LD (long distance) rifle stage was one of the most challenging and well designed LD rifle stages I have ever shot."

The targets included six IPSC metric at 60 yards, six steel (rifle flash plates) arranged at 200-300 yards, and three steel at 360 yards. The competitors started at the middle and a few yards behind a long wall ending in concrete blocks. A gap at each end of the wall was fitted with a short angled ramp, arranged to allow competitors to lie prone on the ramps to shoot. Each ramp/port allowed engagement of three paper and half the steel.

Competitors debated whether it was worth taking time to ensure hits on the most distant steel. While the USPSA multigun rules allow increasing point values as the range to target increases (see www.uspsa.org/rules/2005_Multigun_v9b_July1_05.pdf, "Optional Enhanced Target Values") Chambers said that in the rush of dealing with the other match issues he hadn't seriously considered increasing

target points. He added that given the same circumstances he probably would make them worth more points, but that he didn't think it mattered much in the long run.

Ultimately he was shown to be correct as most competitors did shoot the targets, with stage winners Jake Kempton and Daniel Horner (Open and Tactical respectively) collecting all 105 available points.

Small Growing Pains

As competitors swept into the stages, the strength of match became evident, as very few problems came up. San Angelo scoring has significantly improved the "Comstock" nature of USPSA Multigun, allowing for properly scored minor pistol, or major rifle, on a target-by-target basis. The extensive use of self-resetting steel also showed its worth. That's not so say everything was perfect, but that USPSA's rules and experience base continues to improve.

Multigun matches are conducted under the Provisional Addendum to the USPSA Rules, 2005 Edition. They are distinguished from 3-Gun matches

by the inclusion of stages employing more than one firearm. Where the Addendum is silent, the underlying handgun, rifle, or shotgun rules apply, and that usually works very well. MD Mastrich pointed out that there are, however, circumstances where application of those rules seems awkward.

"Operating the match under the newly-minted Multigun rules did create questions," commented Mastrich. He cited as an example a situation that arose when Kim Schioldan experienced a squib with his pistol on stage



Joe DeSimone, one of Open's top senior competitors, draws a bead through his scope.

two. The range officer stopped him, and a bullet was subsequently found in the barrel, resulting in the targets being scored "as shot." (Had the bullet cleared the barrel, Schioldan would have received a reshoot.) After the appropriate penalties, he received a zero on the stage.

Schioldan asked the match officials whether he could have, prior to being stopped by the RO, unloaded the pistol and proceeded through the stage engaging the shotgun and rifle targets with the appropriate firearm. Good question. In this case the rules were applied correctly, but neither the Addendum nor the other rules anticipate such a circumstance.

"As the rules evolve, issues such as this need to be addressed," said Mastrich.

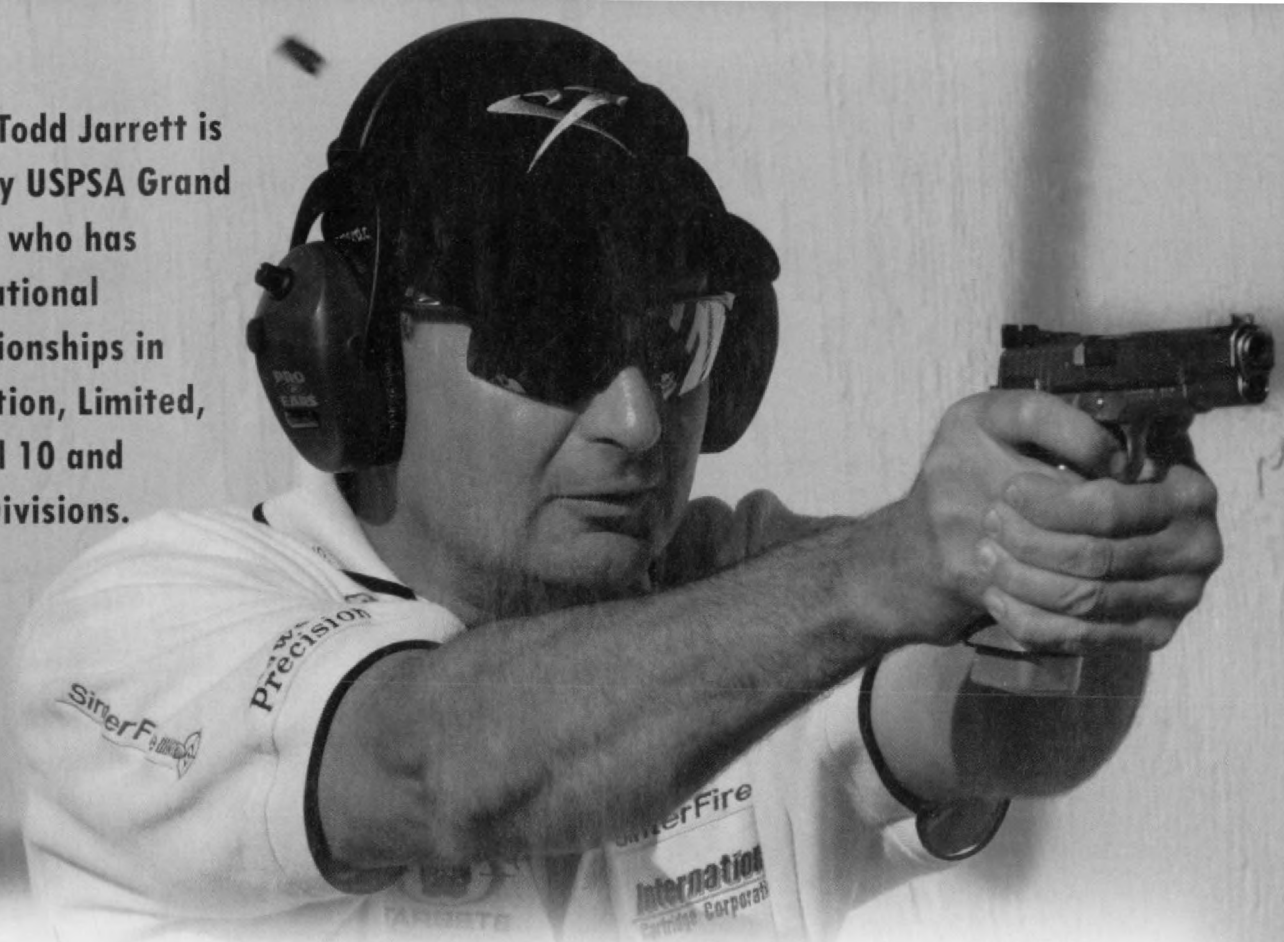
Mastrich extended his appreciation to Albany Rifle and Pistol Club and to the match staff. "I would be happy to work with all them again," he said, then laughed "but not right away!" The caveat refers to how the Mastrich/Chambers team did two major matches in a 30-day period, beginning with the Area 1 Championship.



Deborah Cheek angles for position.

MULTIGUN continued on page 60.

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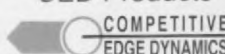
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In The Game



Shawn Carlock

The Long Ranger

Photo courtesy of Shawn Carlock
Carlock and his left-handed
Remington 700 in 6.5X08.

BY ROBIN TAYLOR, USPSA STAFF, TY-19724

USPSA shooters are gearheads. They tinker with loads, try unusual bullets, bolt on new parts, grind off or disable old parts – there aren't a lot of areas left on a typical pistol that the USPSA community HASN'T messed with yet.

Listening to Shawn Carlock talk about rifles is a little like listening to a car racer talk about his personal race car. He gets that same eager, mischievous smile, only instead of pounds of compression, acceleration, and RPMs, Carlock speaks in ballistic coefficients, fractional minutes of angle, and foot-pounds – all with a laugh and a grin.

The language isn't hard to decode, and it's laden with a certain giddiness, a happiness that Carlock draws from getting to live his passion.

Carlock has been making a name for himself since giving up law enforcement in 2000 to go full-time as a gunsmith and firearms trainer. His rifles appeared in Guns & Weapons for Law Enforcement, and Accurate Rifle before “manually operated rifle” competition was much more than an idea.

Today Carlock is the USPSA 2006 Manually Operated Rifle champion, having wrested the title away from no less than Michael Voigt and challenger Matt Burkett.

I find myself in Carlock's neighborhood a couple of times a year, shooting steel matches or playing at 3-Gun.

“You might not know this,” he told me when I called, “I spent most of the summer teaching long range hunting courses.”

Last we'd spoken, Carlock was starting to offer long-range courses to law enforcement, with long range hunting as a sideline. As it happens, the hunters have far outpaced the snipers in terms of their willingness to plunk down hard-earned money for Carlock's experience and handiwork.

Long Range Hunting?

That phrase means different things to different people, so I asked Carlock to explain what he meant.

“I get these guys in the shop that want to hunt at extended distances, 4, 5, 600 yards, and a little further even.”

That desire flows in part from the wrinkled terrain of Northern Idaho. The Coeur D'Alene area is studded with deep, steep-walled canyons. As Carlock explained, “it's hard to hunt through, but if you can shoot across the canyon, that's another matter.”

Shawn saw the market and started offering a class just for them. “Long range shooting is long range shooting,” Carlock says, and his years as a departmental sniper and sniper instructor played right into that. Carlock is a hunter himself, so the combination was a natural one. (If you meet him on the range, ask Carlock to “bugle.” He can do this complex

bull elk call, and the cow's retort, with just his bare hands.)

"I require certain equipment, a gun that holds 1 MOA, a scope with target turrets, and I teach them everything from square one; from zeroing out to shooting at 1100 to 1200 yards."

Carlock's first day focuses on the bench, but on the second day, he moves out to some local national forest land for some true "field work."

"After the first day, with known distances and little wind, they're feeling pretty good about themselves. The next day I put them in gullies and things where I know the wind is going to mess with them. That second day is about field shooting, reading the conditions and how to correct for them."

Using reactive steel targets (R+R Racing self-resetting plates) the lessons of wind and angle become immediately apparent. "It's all about making that first round hit. I'll set up a plate at something like 627 yards, downhill at 18 degrees. All of a sudden the guys that can hit at 800 yards are missing all

over the place. Beyond four to five hundred yards, if you don't read every single little thing, you're going to miss."

Advocating long-range hunting has brought Carlock into hot water with some members of the hunting establishment. On his website, Carlock has a photo of one of his students, Travis Reggear, and his deer taken at a laser-ranged 1,146 yards. That photo brings in complaints from ethically-minded hunters, claiming that hunters have no business shooting at that range, and that the risk of wounding loss is just too high.

"They get directly on me about that," Carlock says.

As you might guess, when you scratch the surface, there's more to the story.

"The whole goal of the class is to know when to STOP shooting, how to know what your limits are and stop well within them," he says. "My position is that the man who practices and takes his time to get good at those sorts

of ranges is a lot better hunter than the guy who has had the same box of cartridges for 10 years. You know, the ones who say stuff like, 'I had to reload before I actually put one in him?'"

"That guy on my website has a 1,000 yard range at his house. He shoots all the time. That's the second barrel I've put in that gun for him."

Hybrid Market, Hybrid Gunsmith

Carlock's gunsmithing work is as much a hybrid as his background: part



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hunter, part law enforcement officer, part competitor.

While working as a law enforcement “precision marksman” Carlock became fascinated with the idea of rifles that could defeat equipment and light armor — “hard targets,” to use their parlance.

As Carlock explained, the .50 BMG sniper rifle was just becoming popular, and while it could do amazing things, it was massive. Many rifles were as much as six feet long.

“.50 cal's will penetrate a lot of armor, but they weigh 30 or 40 pounds. I wanted something that would do that, and do anti-personnel, without having to be carried by a squad.”

In typical gearhead fashion, Carlock started tinkering, outlining the “performance envelope” that the new rifle — later named the Hard Target Interdiction Rifle (HTIR, pronounced “hitter”) — would fill.

To be portable, Carlock settled on a maximum weight of 16 pounds, which also happens to be the maximum weight for a hunting rifle in Idaho.

For range, he wanted a combination that would give a realistic range of 1,500 yards in real conditions — not just on a controlled range.

For terminal performance: “I wanted two things, highest reasonable BC that was available on the general market, and



Photo by Dave Thomas.

Carlock hustles his modified Remington 1100 shotgun down-range during the recent Multigun Nationals. He's known for a speedy reloading technique called the “Carlock Shuffle.” Carlock finished 20th overall in Tactical division.

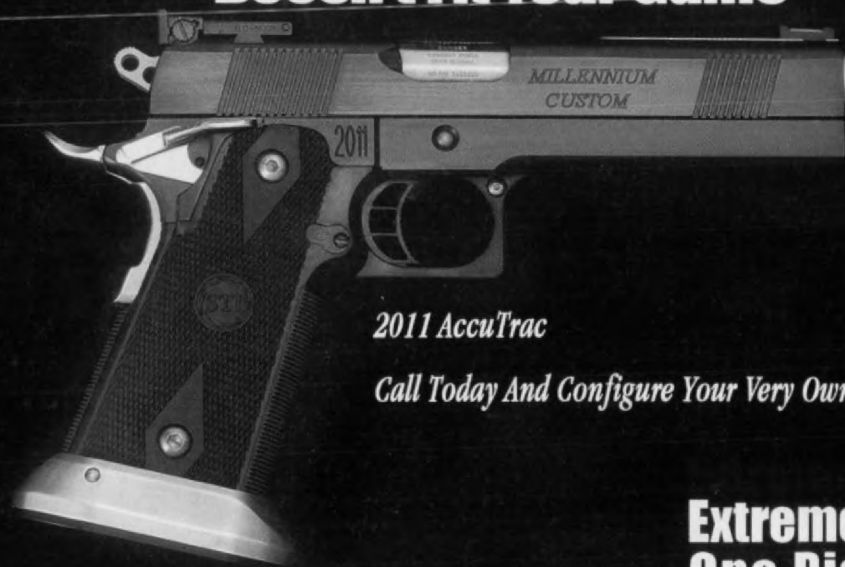
I wanted a bunch of retained weight. The 6.5 has a very high BC, but not much retained energy or weight. So I settled on 300-grain Sierra Match King in .338.”

Ideally, Carlock wanted to be able to defeat a 3/8” mild steel plate at 1,000 yards — no mean feat for any shoulder-fired cartridge.



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Continuing the Legacy

Did I mention that at the time, Carlock knew absolutely nothing about cartridge development?

His long-time friend Patrick Kelley was riding in the truck with him when Carlock started asking him some leading questions about, "you know, making your own cartridge."

"He didn't know what the word 'wildcatting' meant," says Kelley. "He'd heard of Ackley because he knew someone that had a rifle in an Ackley caliber, but that's it."

Since first meeting Carlock, Kelley has been amazed by Carlock's lack of pre-conceived barriers and limits.

"It's like he has a fresh sheet of paper on every project. Where a lot of people will sit and think things through, he just starts. Like that .338 thing, not knowing anything about how this is done, he had already more or less created his own caliber."

The end result was the awesomely-

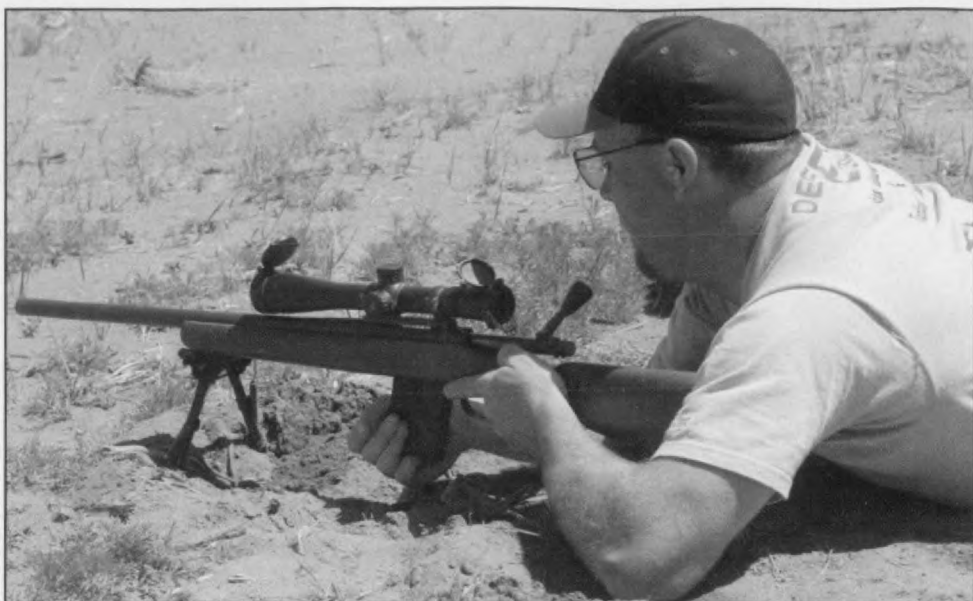


Photo by Robin Taylor.

Less-successful days. Carlock competing in the MOR event at the 2003 Area 1 3-Gun. This match was what people call "a learning experience."

potent .338 Edge, a wildcat built by necking up a .300 Ultra Mag case to .338. The finished case is a tenth of an inch longer internally than the .338 Ultra Mag., and spits that 300-grain Sierra at 2,750 feet per second.

Thanks in part to the Sierra bullet's

amazing BC of .768 (versus a .308's .462-.600), "that thing has as much energy at 1,000 yards as a .308 has at the muzzle," says Carlock. Packing a power factor of 827, "inside 600 yards it will flip the target completely out of an R+R Racing frame."

That is not the sort of thing one wants to fire without the help of recoil compensator. Carlock has boxes filled with different brake designs lying about the shop.

"The muzzle blast is horrendous, no doubt, but as the shooter, recoil's not too bad. It's actually fairly pleasant."

Remember that mischievous giggle I mentioned earlier?

"Now we're tinkering with a .408 Cheyenne necked down to .338. 'Should throw that 300-grain Sierra at about 3,400, for about 9,000 foot pounds,'" he says, trying not to laugh.

"For the guys that like to play with numbers, we should get a factor of about 1020."

Neither of us could hold our composure at that point, laughing and whistling like a couple of teenagers looking at a fast car.

"Funny thing is, I've got four sold already. I haven't got one done yet, and

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I've got four on order. Guys want them for long-range elk hunting. The whole rig should be under 16 pounds with a scope."

Indeed, Carlock says that roughly 70 percent of the people who have bought "Edge" rifles have taken his long-range hunting class.

Right now he's about six months behind, backed up on a pile of long-range hunting rifles. A steady tide of 3-Gun work comes in at the same time, mostly Remington 1100 shotguns being modified to work with the "Carlock Shuffle" loading technique that Carlock pioneered. (See article by Bill Sahlberg, page 16, July/August 2005 issue.)

"Shawn's very direct, just attacks stuff," says Kelley. He tells the story of teaching a law enforcement shotgun class with Carlock. One of the shotguns they were using had a fixed choke, so it wouldn't be suitable for the exercise they were going to do the next day. "Shawn told me something like 'that's okay, we'll choke it tonight when we get home.'"



Photo courtesy of Shawn Carlock.

Carlock's rifle up close. The oversized bolt handle draws the eye, but look closely at the scope. Note the extra ring that holds a spirit level, and the robust target knobs. Carlock's custom cheekpiece rises into the frame at right.

The standard method of putting choke tubes into a shotgun involves a lathe long enough to turn the barrel. Carlock had the tool, but his home lathe wasn't that big. "His stuff was too small, the lathe was too short, and 20

minutes later the gun was choked," says Kelley.

"Rather than sit back and analyze something, he just starts. He doesn't do that with customers' guns, but he does it. He's just such a quick study on this stuff. He actually does a better job of my interceptor latch fix to an 1100 than I do because of his machining background."

The MOR Game

Carlock started shooting the MOR a few years ago. Fascinated by it, and its connection to his "day job," he started shooting some of the non-affiliated 3-Gun events where he could compete against the top shooters.

He learned a lot at these events, sometimes faring well, sometimes losing badly. He's been polishing his game over the last several years, refining his equipment and technique to fit the unique demands of USPSA.

USPSA courses, unlike many non-affiliated events, throw in movement and reloads. Add the occasional close-range targets (that carry just as much weight as the distant targets), and USPSA's MOR game is distinct. For example, you don't bring a single-shot and expect to do well here.



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Reloading played a role this year in particular. Shooters had to reload on every course, and sometimes more than once. On a course lasting only 40 seconds, you don't have time to handle loose rounds. One stage had shooters engaging targets no further than 35 yards away, but doing it as though you were shooting out of a house.

"Some guys complained about the close-range stuff, but it was precision in every sense of the word. You had to get into position, there were no-shoots around, it just wasn't long-range," says Carlock.

He spoke highly of this stage in light of his experience as a sniper, and a trainer of police snipers, saying "It's taken law enforcement YEARS to catch up to the fact that the average precision rifle shot is something like 47 yards, at a small, obscured, usually moving target."

In Oregon, Carlock came to the line carrying a relatively un-interesting looking Remington 700. While certainly a custom gun, it featured a standard-profile Remington 700 stock (a

synthetic version made by H&S Precision), a lightweight adjustable cheek-piece, and a standard 26-inch Remington "Sendero" profile barrel with a muzzle brake and some barrel flutes to help shed heat.

Chambered in .260 Remington (the commercial version of the old 6.5-08), and fitted with an H&S Precision detachable magazine kit and a Harris bipod (with "pod-locks"), it's pretty humble compared the exotic long range guns sometimes seen here. Rather than use a heavy caliber, Carlock went with the 6.5 for its combination of low recoil, flat trajectory, magazine capacity, and ability to resist wind deflection.

"Most people shoot 140-class VLD bullets at about 2750 in the .260," he says. "It's pretty flat-shooting, but that's only part of the story. The BC on that 6.5 bullet is almost double that of a .308 168-grainer. At higher speed, and double the BC, it shoots a bunch flatter, and it drifts exactly half as much."

"When you get out on the courses

like we had at this year's Nationals, where you've got a gusty little wind, if I look and see 5mph of wind, and by the time I break the shot I've got 10mph wind, I'm off half as much as a guy that does the same thing with a .308. It's a pretty serious mechanical advantage."

Oregon's wide spread of distances fell right into Carlock's expertise. With small targets from 35 yards out to more than 500, if you didn't have complete "dope" on where your cartridge would hit at different distances, you were in terrible trouble.

Experience in reading the wind plays a major role, as does having your gun set up so that you can self-spot.

Shooting in non-affiliated matches that emphasize sniper events, he quickly learned that using a recoil compensator was not just a matter of shooter comfort. Yes, a compensator or brake makes shooting the next shot somewhat faster, but in a game measured in minutes, that's trivial.

"If you don't have a good, trained spotter, you need to be able to see your

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cal. 38/9: cap. 22+1

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cal. 38/9: cap. 27+1



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own hits," he says.

If you're still lost in recoil when a bullet misses, you can't accurately correct, and you're no more likely to hit on the second shot than you were when you missed the first.

Great big target backers foiled Carlock's ability to see-and-correct in Oregon. Instead, he calculated the possibilities and corrected for wind gusts on the fly.

"On the longest stage, I missed two shots," he says. "I dialed in the minimum amount of wind, and I knew that if I missed, I could hold into the wind on the side of the plate. I did that; picked up the miss right away, and kept on truckin'."

Carefully choosing your optics also plays a role in MOR shooting according to Carlock. He walked to the line sporting the Nightforce NXS 3.5-15 scope, with an NPR2 reticle.

"That was also an advantage," he says. "It's a very repeatable scope. I could take my best estimate, dial in the wind, and hold dead on."

Carlock speaks highly of the NPR2 reticle, although it differs significantly from the reticles used by many serious snipers. Military snipers use the distance between the dots on their Mil-Dot reticles to estimate range, and estimate necessary hold-offs at different distances. That only works if the distance between the dots is known, and they pay extra for scopes that have the reticle positioned in the correct focal plane so that the dot spacing remains constant.

The Nightforce is not one of these scopes.

The NPR2 Reticle has nominally two-minute gradations in it that expand or contract depending on which magnification setting you're using. Without a thorough familiarity with the system, this can be a problem. However, with the right training, those expanding gradations can be a serious advantage. The trick, according to Carlock, is picking the line spacing that

works best for you, right now.

"I have an X-Ball program on my pocket PC, and in that is a ballistic reticle analysis page," says Carlock. "That told me that if I zeroed at 300, and turned the scope down to 10 (from 15), then on the close targets at 235 or so, I could hold right at the bottom of the plate and shoot. Then, without dialing, I could move straight to 300 and shoot those, then shoot the next set using the first line below the crosshairs, and the furthest ones with the second line below."

As he tells the story, his skill with the Nightforce/X-Ball system combined with the flat-shooting character of the .260 played a major role in his success.

"Using those adjustments, I didn't have to dial anything on the scope. Most everybody else was dialing their scope, and it just took too long."

As Carlock explained, once he'd set his scope, the 6.5's aerodynamics offered him a broad range to engage targets in without having to adjust.

"My dead-hold range might be 400 to 520 yards, where a .308 guy would have to adjust at least once in that distance," he says.

Back At Home

Carlock's been getting a few calls for .260 MOR guns lately, as he catches up with his family (wife and two kids).

On a typical day he'll be in the shop early, starting work between 4:30 and 5:30 in the morning. He'll spend the day fielding calls, doing quotes, and trying to get work done. Exercise fits into the picture somewhere – both he and his wife make a point of staying in top shape – along with plotting his next hunting or competitive adventure.

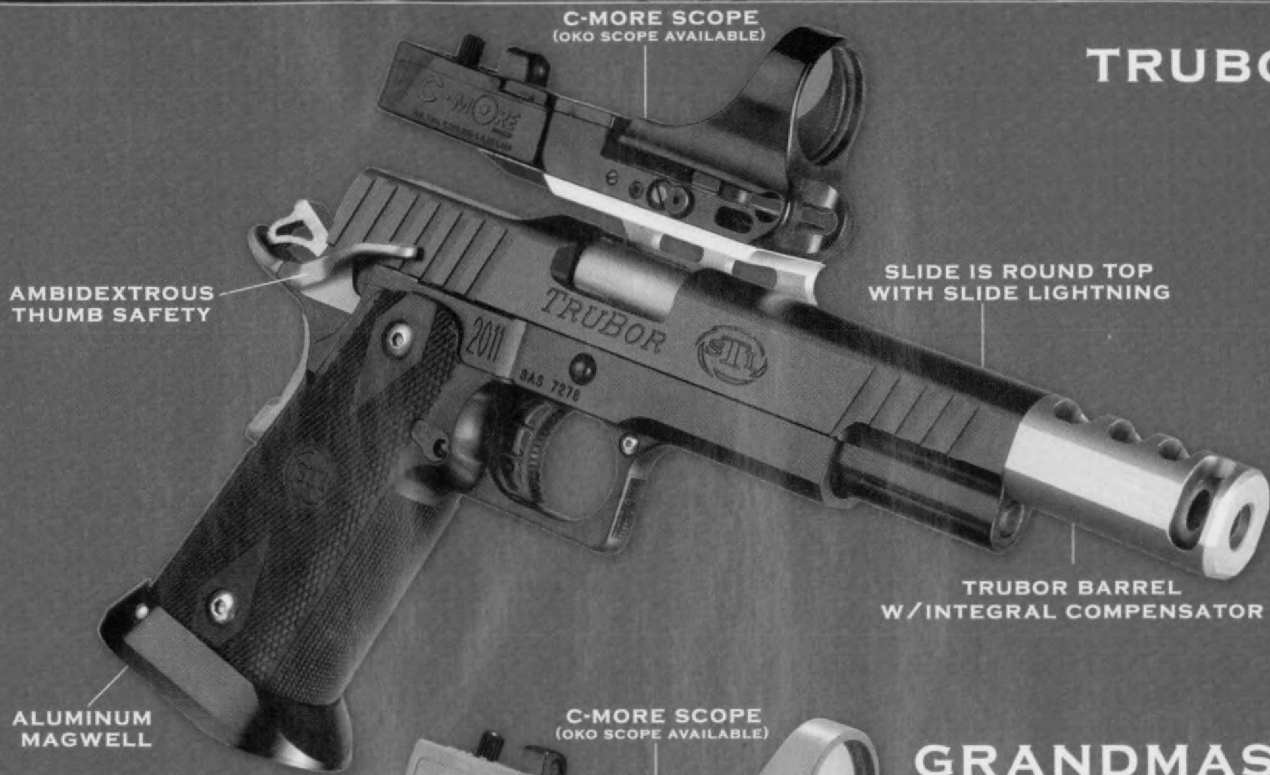
The next time you see him at the range, ask him about the successor to the .338 Edge, and whether those hunters are still keeping him busy. But most of all, tell him you read about him in *Front Sight!*





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Focusing on Production, Single Stack

BY PAUL J BENSON, TY-45006 PHOTOS
BY DAVE THOMAS, L-796, USPSA ED

On June 2, 2006, 150-plus Single Stack and Production shooters gathered for the first match of its kind - The West Coast Dual Championship at the Hogue Action Pistol Range, located between San Luis Obispo and Moro Bay. This range hosted the IDPA 2002, 2003 and 2004 California State Cham-

ampionship matches. It seemed predestined for shooters from both IDPA and USPSA to meet in a match format specifically designed for these two segments of the action shooting community.

The story goes that Mike and Souzan Nelson were chatting with USPSA great Taran Bultler about putting on a match. The idea that

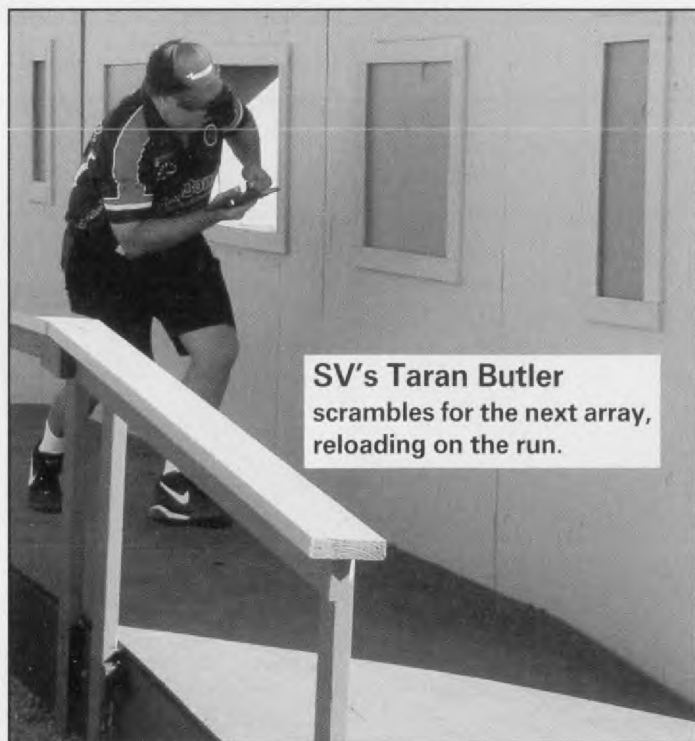
emerged from this meeting was a match dedicated to Single Stack and Production guns. With Mike and Souzan's IDPA roots, it seemed almost like USPSA meets IDPA in California. Mike and Souzan took on the tasks of managing the West Coast Dual Championship, and Taran offered to help find sponsorship.

Taran mentioned this unique

match to one of his personal sponsors, Sandy Strayer of SV Infinity. SV Infinity was excited to become a co-sponsor of the match. Souzan Nelson used her contacts from putting on the California IDPA Championship matches and called Smith & Wesson, convincing them to become the other co-sponsor.

Sandy sent his son to represent him. Brandon Strayer shot the match, supplied some parts, and brought two custom-built SVI 1911s as prizes. The first gun chosen from the single-stack prize table was a special square-trigger-guard SVI 1911 with the famous nitrate-finished barrel. Its twin went in the drawing for the mystery prize, and sponsor generosity did not stop there! Smith & Wesson supplied six guns in various models. Springfield Armory supplied five XD Tacticals. Angus Hobdell brought pistols on behalf of CZ. Dave Sevigny represented Glock, bringing with him a Glock 34 and two certificates for additional Glocks for the prize table. To make things even sweeter, Apex Tactical Specialties promised to trick that Glock 34 out into a high performance competition gun.

As you may know, Bar-Sto Precision Machine is producing California-legal wide-body 1911s under an agreement



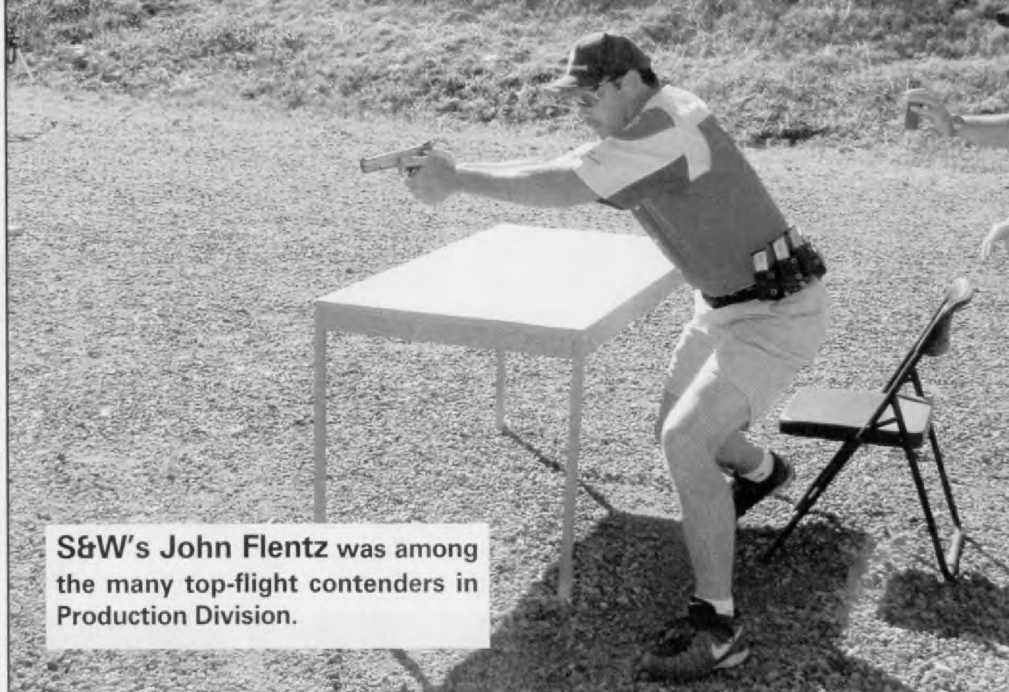
SV's Taran Butler
scrambles for the next array,
reloading on the run.

with STI. Bar-Sto contributed a gun, asking that its new gun be part of a special drawing. The catch was that the top 50 shooters would be ineligible to win. What an outstanding way for a middle-of-the-road shooter to get a chance to win a custom-built firearm!

All in all, some 20 pistols were offered as prizes, with a gun for every class winner in both divisions. For the rest of us, the prizes were awarded on a drawing basis. Everyone who stayed to the end got to go home with a prize. This was a pretty phenomenal number of pistols for a first-time match. Again, this outstanding response from the firearm industry was a testimony to the efforts of Mike and Souzan Nelson.

On top of the guns, Blade-Tech was there with both prizes and a massive selection of holsters and magazine holders on its vendor table. Live Eye supplied the ROs with glasses. Barry Ducek of Surefire made sure there were Surefire lights on the prize table. Oakley, Starline, Montana Gold Bullets, Apex Tactical Specialties, and 5.11 were some of the other sponsors. I apologize for not naming all the great sponsors for the match; please see their website <http://www.sanluisactionpistol.org/> for a complete list.

Dave Thomas felt this match was a bridge between IDPA and USPSA because it focused on the Single Stack and Production divisions. The host club has a long history of offering IDPA matches, and holds USPSA matches also. The idea of having a match that focused on the common ground of both associations seemed like a natural



S&W's John Flentz was among the many top-flight contenders in Production Division.

progression. Approximately 27 percent of the Single Stack shooters and almost 35 percent of the Production shooters were unclassified, many of whom came over from IDPA. In fact, the mystery gun drawing winner was the IDPA Section Coordinator for Nevada. These are some interesting numbers when you look at who actually shot the match. Gary Stevens, the father of the single stack division, felt the new division would bring in new shooters. Approximately one-third of the shooters at the West Coast Dual Championship were unclassified. This looks encouraging and supportive of Gary Stevens' concept.

Pre-Match Day

I was able to leave work early Friday and drive up to the match. The staff, ROs and some competitors were already there shooting.



Yes, you had to shoot prone. The agile Nathan Heinrichs makes prone look (relatively) painless.

I was able to watch CZ's Angus Hobbell shoot stage 7, "Three Plates." This was a fun stage with a foot-activated double target slider with a no-shoot, and a bobber on the right side of the stage. As with most of the GMs I have met, Angus was very gracious when I asked for his advice. True to form, Angus went through his stage analysis in detail, then walked us up to



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the slider and bobber and further explained what he did and why. He said, "Hit this slider before it comes to the midway point, then swing right and hit the bobber." One of the many things that differentiate Grand Masters from the rest of us is their ability to analyze the timing of all the moving targets in a stage in order to always be shooting, thus reducing their times. Angus was blazingly fast on this stage, but Mike Voigt had the fastest time.

Match Day

This was an "Open Squad" match. Open Squad allows shooters to form

their own squads and look for open stages. It's a squadding style that's much more common in the IDPA world, used at such high-profile matches as the Carolina Cup. It has also been used successfully by the Golden Bullet, a USPSA Level III match held on this range. I was lucky enough to chat with a couple fellows early Saturday morning, Rick Punu and Keith Sirevaag. We got along, so we decided to form our own squad of three. We shot the whole match on Saturday and finished by about 2:00 p.m.



Armed with a single-Stack 1911 and camouflage kilt — J.B. Barlow takes on each stage in style.

Little did I know how good these guys really were! Rick won Master Single Stack, and Keith won C Single Stack. They were intense enough to have high expectations but grounded enough to have fun and make the entire match enjoyable.

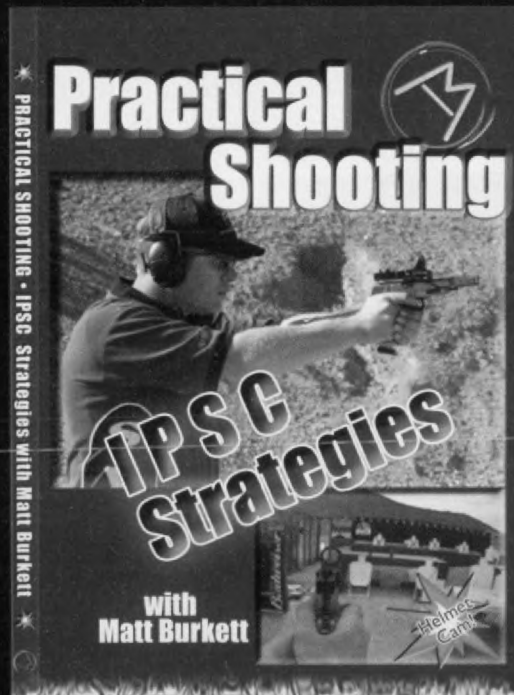
Stages

Taran Butler mentioned, "the Single Stack shooters generally were perhaps a little more cautious than the Production shooters." Dave Sevigny confirmed that observation by saying, "those extra two rounds let the Production guys be a little more aggressive."

Although straightforward, the Nelsons' stage designs featured plenty of no-shoots and hard cover targets, which kept things interesting. I heard one RO state, "there were almost 70 hard cover or no-shoot targets throughout the stages." The fact that shooters did not seem overwhelmed by all the hard cover and no-shoots is a testament to the excellent stage designs by Mike Nelson and his crew.

One person said the stages were deceptively simple, but with some traps if you were not careful. "If you blaze away and overrun a target, you might end up with a no-shoot or a mike," they said.

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You can get a complete diagram of the stages at www.slosa.org/uspsa/dual/index.htm, but the diagrams fail to do justice to the excellent props on many of the stages.

Before we go any further, let me make a comment about the range officers. On all 10 stages the ROs were great — not a disagreeable attitude in the bunch. And to top it off, I was squadded with a number of them at Area 2 last year. It was great to see these guys again as they added a little good-natured ribbing along the way.

Stage 1 Star Power

Star Power gave you two fairly unpleasant options. Since you could see one of the plates from the last two posi-



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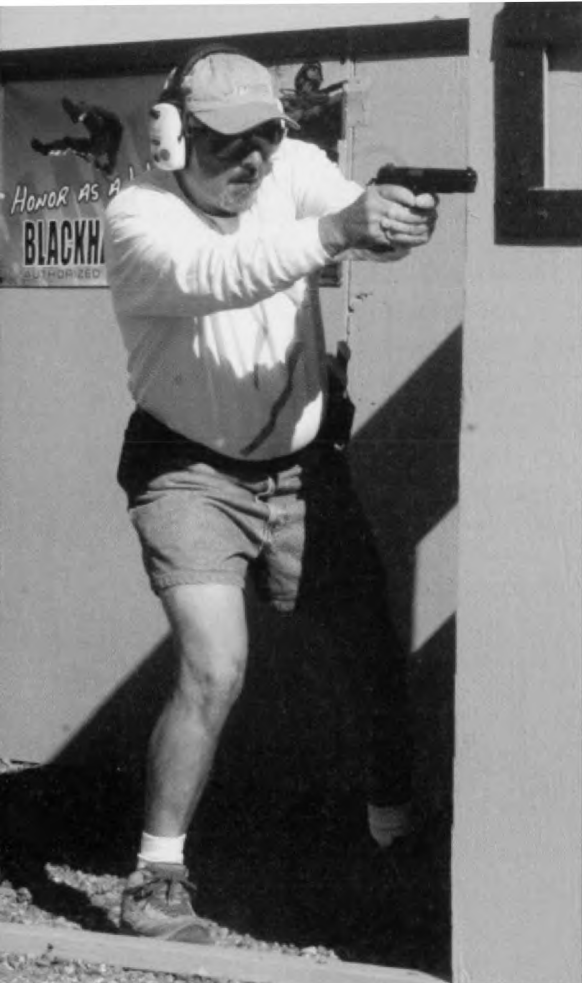
The Crouch and a big smile. Above, Dave Sevigny drives his Production 9mm, while Glenn Higdon cracks a big smile as he engages targets. Note his perfect two-alpha at low right.

problem of either going into slide lock on the way to the last array or saving the last plate for the last array and ending on slide lock. No matter what, the single-stack shooters needed to be cautious and make sure they made their shots. Angus Hobdell won this stage in Production with Dave Sevigny only .01 seconds behind him!

Stage 3, "Kings Castle"

The stage featured a castle façade with ports on either end. A steel popper must be shot from each port before the drawbridge in the middle will lower. Worse, the poppers aren't quite equal. Shoot the last popper last





and you stand there waiting for the drawbridge to drop. If the shooter hits the popper in the last port first, the drawbridge is down by the time the shooter arrives at the drawbridge. Dave Sevingy won the stage in Production, as did Mike Voigt in single-stack with less than .14 seconds difference between their times!

Results

In Production, Dave Sevingy came out on top, saying, "This was probably one of my best performances of the year so far." Taran Butler was the single stack winner, trailed by the illustrious Mike Voigt. Angus Hobdell was second in Production. So it should not be surprising that on almost every stage the winner, second, third and often fourth was one of these four shooters. In fact, if you lumped them all together, Taran Butler would have won four stages, Dave Sevingy three stages, with Angus Hobdell and Mike Gary Koenigsmark leans out around the barricade, shooting a single-stack 1911.

Voigt taking a stage each.

Dave Sevingy commented that "for the first time around they (Mike and Souzan) nailed it. It was like they had been doing this for a long time." Obviously their IDPA match experience really paid off.

It seemed as if most stages were won by tenths and hundredths of a second between the four top shooters.

In summary, Dave Sevingy's quote that the Nelsons "got it right the first time" was what everyone who shot the match felt. The match directors did an awesome job, the sponsors were great, and the ROs were professional and pleasant. The Hogue range facilities were excellent. I would highly recommend this match to anyone with an interest in Production or Single Stack competition. Make plans for the next Dual Championship to be held at the Hogue Action Pistol Range on July 13, 2007. Thank you, Mike and Souzan, your efforts made this match one of the best of the year.



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EVERY MATCH AN ADVENTURE: THE 2006 AREA 7

By JAMES TARR, A-25200

PHOTOS COURTESY OF AREA 7.

I've been shooting IPSC long enough that I've seen and done a little bit of everything. I've shot State, Area, and National championships, competed close to home and across the country, performed brilliantly and screwed up so badly it's a wonder I still have all my fingers. Somewhere along the way, after having my gun break at the Nationals, and forgetting to bring rain gear to my first major match (where—surprise!—it rained all day), I came to appreciate the experience of shooting a major match as an adventure in itself, regardless of how I performed.

The 2006 Area 7 Championship was hosted by the Rochester Brooks Practical Shooters and held just outside Rochester, New York. I'd never shot the Area 7 before, and since it was within driving distance this year I sent out a check just as soon as my tax refund came in. I received my confirmation packet in the mail not long afterwards, and as I thumbed through page after page my heart began to sink. Apparently, in New York, you can't even bring a gun into the state unless you're competing in a match, so every shooter needed to make sure he (or she) had his packet with him at all times, and the gun needed to stay in a locked case in the trunk. Also, the only magazines



Mike Seeklander goes for the reload on Stage #2, "Pliers and a Blow Torch."

Crime Bill. I imagined our car getting stopped at the New York border by stern-faced government officials in starched grey uniforms, demanding in German-accented English to see our papers.

The regulations didn't faze the many shooters from nearby Canada who attended the match, as they have to compete under the same rules when they're at home, but it was a new experience for me. Canada is of course a whole other country, and a socialist one at that, whereas New York is . . . well . . . never mind.

Our worries all turned out to be for naught, and we found upstate New York to be beautiful and filled with friendly people. Bob Urban, Mike Cole, Rob Boudrie, and a host of other unsung heroes put together one fun, smooth-running match. The match was held the second weekend of June, which means that the weather was . . . 47 degrees with misting rain on Saturday morn.

Remember the "adventure" part of this story? People fall off cliffs in adventures, get killed by natives, eaten by lions. When the Chinese say, "May you have an interesting life," it's a curse, not a blessing. I'm thinking about, at major matches, wishing all the competitors in my division ". . . an interesting match."

Our first stage of the frigid morning, "Royale With Cheese," featured two separate strings, both begun with an unloaded gun. The cold had stiffened my hands into Wicked Witch of the East claws, making everything difficult. Somehow I got my left pinkie caught in my Glock while racking the slide and ended up with a huge blood blister. While examining it with the other shooters in my squad, our huffing clouds of breath looking like the

that hold more than 10 rounds that are allowed in the state are those that were manufactured before the 1994



JJ Racaza hoses 'em down at close range on Stage 5, "Devine Intervention."

steam from a locomotive straining uphill, I remember saying, "You know, if I could feel that, it would probably really hurt."

The original design for the stage had the competitors firing the second string from under the table, but that plan was scrapped when the ROs realized some rounds could clear the berm and take down low-flying aircraft. Details, details.

Jeff Curts designed all ten stages for this year's Area 7, and named them after lines from the movie "Pulp Fiction." I know, I know, you're thinking—ten stages? Are there ten lines of dialogue in Pulp Fiction without profanity? Yes there are, and Jeff even skipped Winona's "ketchup" joke.

My favorite stage names? "Everybody Be Cool, This is a Robbery," and



Brad Balsey on Stage 7, "Everybody Be Cool, This Is a Robbery." Competitors had to be careful of the 180 on this challenging stage.

"Pliers and a Blow Torch." I know several shooters watched the movie a day or two before shooting as a sort of match prep. I think they were a bit disappointed that we didn't get to start any stages with a range-provided

samurai sword or suppressed MAC-10 in hand.

No matter what your preference, you could probably find it at this 222-round match which was shot in a half-day format. There were speed shoots, short field courses, long field courses, strong- and weak-hand shooting, drop-turners, swingers, windows and doors, elevated platforms, hardcover steel, and the requisite annoying prop we had to carry while shooting — in this case a watch we were specifically told we could NOT put in our mouths (there went my plan).

On Stage 8, "This Is A Tasty Burger," we had to start with a plastic burger in one hand and a cup of (foam) soda in the other, then hose three targets at point blank range before running to a nearby door and engaging the rest of the paper and steel in the short field course. There were several doors at the match, and we were warned at each walk-through by the hard-working ROs to be careful not to sweep ourselves. On this stage a warning to "Be careful not to look like an idiot" might have helped me more, but hindsight is always 20/20.

On Stage 3, "Zed is Dead," a long 23-round field course, the competitor could stay back on the elevated platform and engage everything, or run forward. Many Open shooters elected

to hang back and take the long shots, only to find out it would have been faster to charge the targets. As a general rule, a major match is not the place to learn valuable lessons, but sometimes that's life.

Stage 9, "Bring Out the Gimp," was an 18-round field course complete with two pieces of steel and two swingers. The competitor started at the mouth of a hallway holding two handles at shoulder level and had to move forward thirty feet to engage some hidden targets to finish. My brain still hurts from trying to figure out how to shoot this stage, but Steve Monypenny apparently figured it out—he shot it in 8.52 seconds, down eight points, which was good enough to beat everyone else in every division, and Steve was shooting his CZ in Production. Yowzer.

Scoring at the Area 7 was done in a way I've never seen before—the ROs recorded the scores on Palm Pilots, which automatically uploaded the data to the scoring shack computers nearby. The scores from the Palms were then written on tearable scoresheets for the competitors so they could have a hard copy. The system was the quickest I've seen anywhere.

Chrono-ing was done at a small covered shooting area whose angled roof somehow magnified the sound of

the gunshots. My Glock 9mm sounded like an Open gun, and Open guns sounded like Barrett .50s. Competitors waiting in line for their ammo to be tested all had their hands clasped over their muffs and looked like an artillery team waiting for a barrage to end.

Travis Tomasic trumped the worthy competition in Limited Division shooting for the U.S. Army. Out of 280 competitors at this year's Area 7 Championship, Limited Division saw nearly as many competitors (80) as Open Division (83). Brad Balsey, who I believe is finally old enough to vote, won Open Division handily. Angus Hobdell edged out Todd Sindelar by half a percentage point for the win in Production. Larry Houck won Limited-10 Division with his trusty HK, Ed Putnam won the sparsely-populated Single Stack Division, and John Sardina beat all challengers for the win in Revolver Division. You have to hand it to the IPSC wheelgunners. Revolver Division is as much about reloading as shooting, much like shotgunning in 3-Gun.

The weather by Saturday afternoon had warmed up to a balmy 60 degrees, and everyone I talked to was having an excellent time no matter how they were shooting. The food was good, the vendors were kept busy, and the match ran on schedule. What more could you ask for?



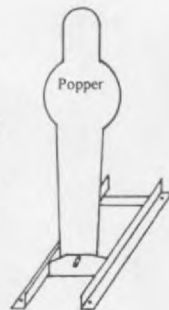
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Looking Back: The First IPSC World Championships, Austria, 1976

When IPSC Still Called Itself "Combat Shooting"

BY WALTER LUGER AND WERNER WEISENHOFER

In 1976, the founding year of IPSC, a shooting club in a small village close to Salzburg, Austria, called the "First Combat Shooting Club of Austria" (or in German: 1.Österreichischer Combat-Schützen-Club-Berndorf), which was founded in 1970 under its energetic president Rudolf Haidenthaler,

Jeff Cooper lecturing in the quarry/range. Note the gravel walls, square-shoulder targets, and neat red slacks. Mr. Cooper died Sept. 25, 2006.



took it upon itself to organize and run the first World Combat Pistol Championship.

Some of the members had met Col. Jeff Cooper the year before at an international match in Glattfelden, close to Zürich, Switzerland. When we contacted Col. Cooper and asked him for support and permission, the Columbia Conference (May 1976) had just finished. "Jeff" as he became known to us agreed to oversee and support the match which was held from Aug. 6-8, 1976.

Twelve nations participated, namely Belgium, Luxemburg, Austria, Sweden, Germany, the



Austrian presentation target (above), given to match winner Jan Foss. Jeff Cooper (below) addresses Ron Lerch, Ray Chapman, and two members of the Swiss delegation. Note the people standing on the rim of the quarry in the background.



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Netherlands, Rhodesia, South Africa, Great Britain, Norway, Switzerland, and the USA. There were 153 shooters plus five lady shooters, who were especially welcome.

The whole village played host to the world match participants, many of whom were guests in private homes. The building of the courses, the running of the match, and the support of the shooters was made possible only by volunteers from the club, which included whole families, men, women, and girlfriends – we were young then.

The course of fire – including a wooden wall of two meters that had to be crossed (imagine) and moving targets – was the subject of lots of letters between Jeff and Werner Weisenhofer. Jeff asked for many corrections - in essence they all were directed towards offering as many free choices for tackling the course as possible. Some were not possible due to the restricted space available – the club was situated in a rather small quarry – its advantage being that visitors had a great view of big parts of the competi-



Deadly serious. Match winner Jan Foss poses with host club president Rudolf Haidenthaler. Foss cradles the SIG 210 he used to win the match.

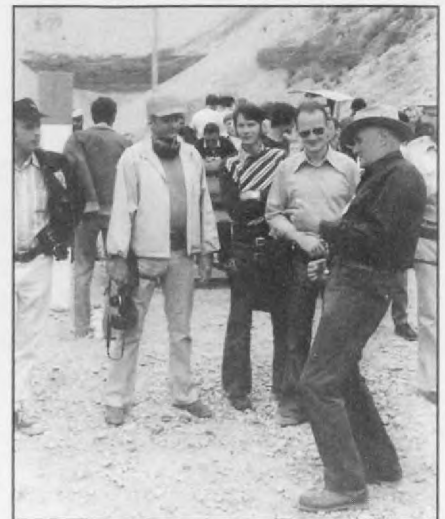
tion from the rim of the quarry.

On the 5th of August Jeff started the competition – accompanied by his wonderful wife Janelle.

Some political problems had only been solved just before the match began – in 1976 participants from Rhodesia were not allowed to enter Europe on their passports, they had to enter with British passports – what a difference to meeting nowadays, where all nations are welcomed. The competition went smoothly, but the

forementioned wall caused trouble when the then ruling German champion, Hans Falter, fell and broke a leg.

Three days later the results held some surprises. 1. Jan Foss, Norway, 2. Ray Chapman, USA, 3. Lionel Smith, Rhodesia, 4. Dave Westerhout, Rhodesia, 5. Vidar Naklink, Norway, 6. Ron Lerch, USA, 7. Erik Braathen, Norway,



Clowning. Cooper enjoying a lighter moment with Chapman and part of the Swiss team.



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American Phenom. Ray Chapman banters with a fellow competitor at the 1976 match. Chapman would finish second to Norwegian Jan Foss.

8. Peter Maunder, Rhodesia, 9. Johnny Hoffman, Norway, 10. Sven Tangen, Norway, 11. David Arnold, Rhodesia, 12. Fritz DeAhna, Germany. As number 13, Rudolf Haidenthaler put Austria on the board and 15th was the first Swiss participant, Otto Weber. The first South African was Gerry Gore at 19th. Great Britain with Patrick Large placed 38th.

Alfons Baeyens from Belgium was 46th. The Dutch participant Wouter Vaags placed 95th. Werner Weisenhofer (at 63rd) later became first IPSC director for the Austrian region, later replaced by Walter Luger (at 31st). Both and all the participants did their best to promote the IPSC ideas as laid down by the Columbia Conference and Jeff Cooper, who left everybody he met at this match impressed and enthusiastic about the new sport.

The winner of this first world championship match was Jan Foss, a Norwegian shooter using a SIG 210. Foss had been unknown and did not participate internationally after this event. All insiders favoured Ray Chapman before the match, who had won the first international shoot in Switzerland the year before.

The success of the Norwegian

shooters surprised many, but was explained easily by the fact that Norway had formed the "Stridsskytterligaen," a very active combat shooting organization, right after the Second World War.

The guns used were equally divided between SIG 210's, FN Highpowers — some modified by Armand Swenson of Holbrook, Calif. — and Colt Government models in .45 ACP, partly modified by Pachmayr Gunworks' main pistolsmith Bill Ives of Los Angeles, Calif.

The participation of ladies was much heralded and appreciated. They represented Great Britain, Switzerland and Austria. The Swiss lady Christine Born won the competition. Second came Mimi Greschpacher of Austria and third Margit Bakocs of Switzerland (and wife of Paul Pakocs, the Swiss combat shooters' president).

The national team prize was won by Rhodesia followed by Norway and the United States. South Africa, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and Great Britain followed.

Many years of faction building and



Cooper and Walter Luger on an outing in Salzburg.

discussion of courses to be taken followed, but the impression Col. Jeff Cooper left lasts to this day. We would never have had such a great time shooting without his support, inspiration, and friendship.



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Case Inspection Woes

Case inspection is an important step in reloading. It takes some time, but adds significantly to the overall safety of the ammunition.

Severely dented cases obviously have to go, and a close look to eliminate cracked cases is worth your time. Most of us have likely loaded and fired a cracked case inadvertently, with no problems, but it is better to be safe. Cracked cases may not hold the bullet tightly, allowing the bullet to telescope into the casing during the feed cycle. As we have discussed in the past, when the bullet telescopes into the casing, pressures will escalate tremendously — with potentially disastrous results.

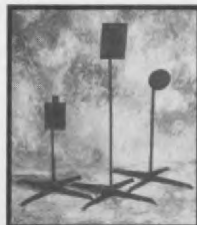
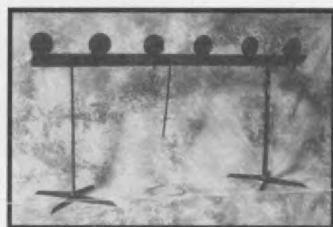
Recently I have been seeing more cracked cases since switching to using nickel-plated cases. Done well, nickel plating adds corrosion protection to cases. It originated when cartridge belt loops were much more common and the residual chemicals from the tanning process of the leather would corrode the brass cases in the loops. The nickel plating eliminated this and extended the time the cartridges could be carried in the belt loops. It also looked good. Done badly, it induced a brittle state in the brass, resulting in cracks when fired.

A recent discussion on the Brian Enos Forum talked about the sound cracked cases make when rattling cases

Guy has been reloading since 1969, including a period as a commercial reloader. He began practical pistol competition in 1977. He has worked on two major reloading manuals and answered questions on reloading and reloading problems daily for more than fourteen years. Contact Guy at gneill@clarkston.com

in your hand. The cracked case will ring differently than normal cases. I noted this many years ago, and most experienced reloaders will recognize the sound of a cracked case while handling several cases at a time. I've heard that sound while dropping a case into a container of cases. It meant stopping

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and sorting through the container to find the cracked case, but that should be done if you think there is a problem case in the batch.

Sometimes the plating on a nickel case will peel or flake. This is not common, but if it occurs, the flakes of nickel can cause problems with the moving parts of your pistol. The case should be discarded immediately.

How About Factory Ammo?

The factories do a great job, but they are not perfect. For example, one shooter showed me a case separation at the Idaho State match. The load? Factory .45 Auto. As a result, he zeroed that stage. It's very hard to get the front half of the casing out of the chamber during the course of fire. These are not the experiences we want to remember after the match. You might also guess what ammunition he never intends to use again.

I have seen factory ammunition where the bullet tore the case during bullet seating. The resultant tear pro-

vided an opening through which the powder could leak from the case. Assuming the round would have fit into the chamber, a squib could have occurred. This underscores the need to inspect ammunition after loading to be certain nothing like this has happened. Normally, gauging the rounds offers the opportunity to inspect and the gauge ensures the round will chamber.

Sneakier Problems:

While loading ammunition for the recent Idaho Handgun Championship, I was in a hurry, and nearly set myself up for disaster. While resizing cases, I happened to glance down and noticed dirt, or something, tightly packed into the bottom of a case.

It was subtle, being similar in color to the case, and so tightly packed that it would not easily come out. I'm not certain exactly how thick the layer was,

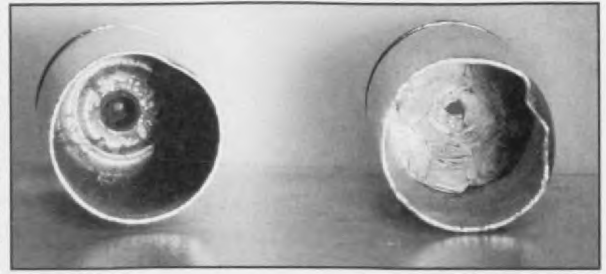


Photo by Guy Neill.

Would you have seen this? Dried mud on the bottom of the case nearly found its way into Guy's gun. Severe overpressure would have been likely.

but it was there, and it would have drastically affected the operating pressure of the cartridge, had I loaded it. The decapping pin had already poked through to remove the primer, and had I been using a progressive press, I probably would never have seen it.

This is not an argument for using single stage presses, but to point out the need to be especially careful when using a progressive press to inspect the cases before loading.

Obviously pebbles or spider webs, combined with residual tumbling media, are more common things to look for when inspecting cases. However, packed or loose dirt is not uncommon. The dirt I described above was unusual, for me, in that it was not full, and it was hard-packed in place. I suspect it was mud that dried in place.

As with most endeavors, a little more effort up front makes everything later go much smoother, and with fewer problems. Case inspection, either before tumbling, or after tumbling, or both, can greatly ease any potential problems with your ammunition down the line.

Contact Problems:

Anyone that has emailed me and not received a reply, please let me know. I had some problems with the older email address that was listed in Front Sight in the past. I think I have found all messages and replied, but, if not, please let me know. The current email to reach me should be at the top of the column, and it should be GLNeill@netscape.net.



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As Multigun develops as a sport, so do its officials. Multigun stages are notoriously slow, thanks in part to the time it takes to safely load, then safely unload so many guns.

Stage 2 (King of SAR) was a pistol/shotgun slug/rifle stage that had the competitors starting seated in an "airplane" with holstered pistol. After engaging eight paper targets the shooter exchanged the pistol for a shotgun and fired at eight more paper targets requiring one slug each. The shotgun was then abandoned on one table and the rifle retrieved from another before the shooter moved into a "helicopter" to engage six steel flash targets to finish.

"SAR" had the potential to be a major bottleneck. The primary challenge was to get the abandoned firearms off the stage so that scoring could be done safely. CRO Carl Schmidt's crew developed an elaborate dance to keep things moving smoothly.

While the shooter and ROs carrying timer

and clipboard moved into the final prop, another RO retrieved the abandoned pistol and shotgun, taking them to the preload table. A fourth RO took the rifle from the shooter after the "unload and show clear command" and carried it back to the same table. The targets could then be scored while these Ros looked after the shooter's equipment.

Schmidt credited his crew of Kevin Imel, Michael Rhea, and Doug Hartley, all first time nationals staff members, for maintaining a six minute clearance time despite the complexity of the stage. "Because they worked well, it worked well," he said.

Another stage receiving considerable comment was stage six, "Pigeon Dinner." This shotgun-only stage required competitors to move down range engaging clay pigeons mounted on stakes hidden behind barrels, four left and four right. It required a lot of swinging back and forth and offered considerable opportunity to DQ. (Most resisted, as there were only five DQs in the entire match.) Shooters used great imagination to find ways to do it safely, including "... standing on tip toes to shoot over the barrels..." said Voigt.

Farther down range was a

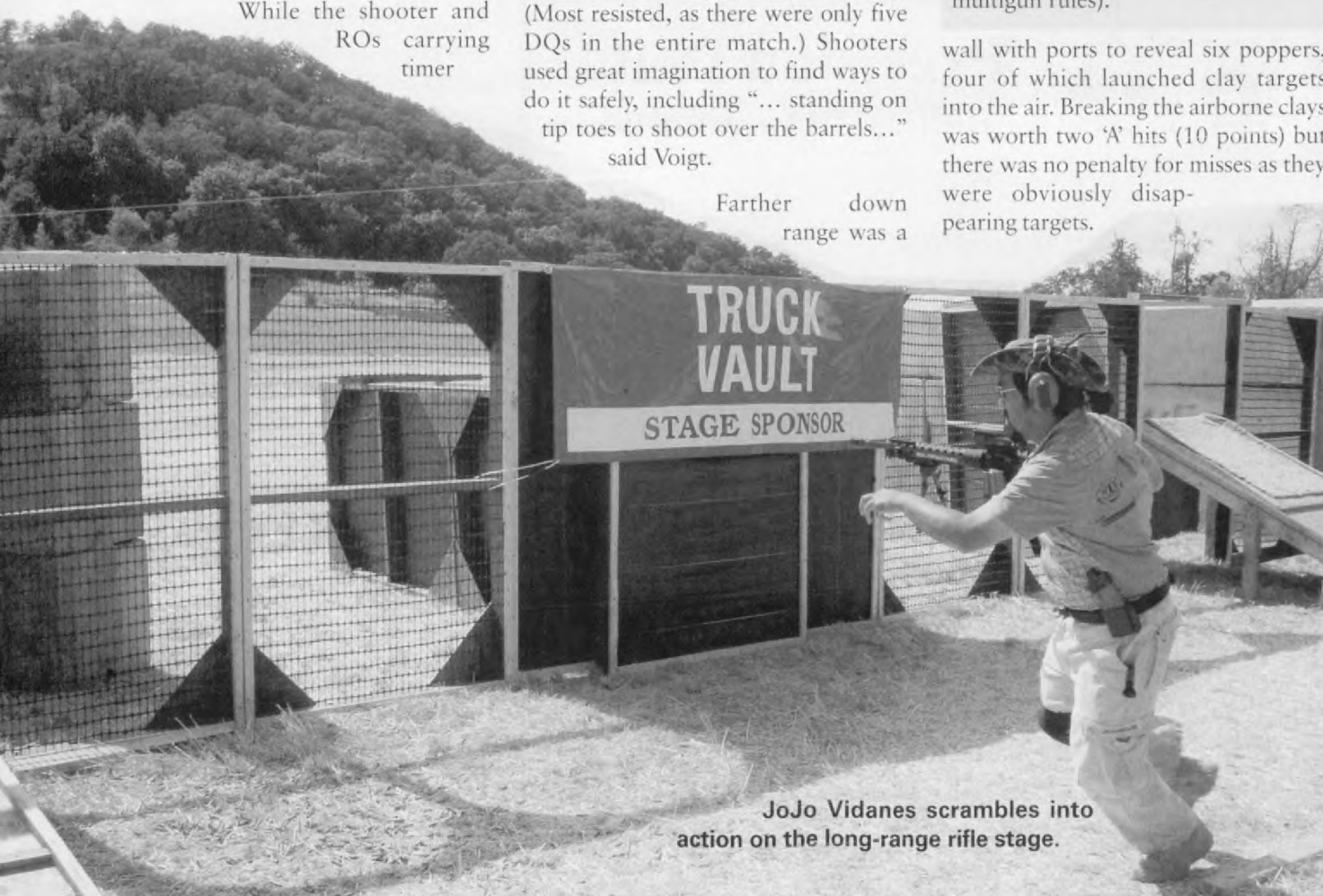
San Angelo scoring

Looking at the rifle stage results I saw someone with 57 penalty points. Fifty seven! How does that happen?

The answer is San Angelo scoring — a way to account for minor power factor hits on a stage that includes major-power firearms. An example would be a pistol/rifle stage where the rifle is minor and the handgun major. Details are available online as part of the Multigun Addendum. In summary, score sheets with non-'A' hits on rifle targets are processed in stats with the "points down" entered as "other penalty points" in EZWin-Score.

Extra calculations like this mean extra work, and Sumiko Chambers and Lori Jacobson did a great job helping keep this process straight in stats. Although San Angelo is still relatively new, Chief Statistician Bruce Gary pointed out that competitors seemed to be "getting it," since most of the questions he was asked had to do with rules issues (Gary is recognized as the "father" of the USPSA multigun rules).

wall with ports to reveal six poppers, four of which launched clay targets into the air. Breaking the airborne clays was worth two 'A' hits (10 points) but there was no penalty for misses as they were obviously disappearing targets.



JoJo Vidanes scrambles into action on the long-range rifle stage.

Overall, there was a lot of steel in the match. This helped with re-set times on the rifle stages in particular, and offered shooters and audience members immediate feedback on how a particular shooter was doing. Action Target donated the targets for one stage, and R&R Racing, a long time supporter of

USPSA 3-Gun/Multigun matches, provided the rest. R&R deserves special recognition for their innovative, high quality products. Look for an upcoming interview with Robert Wright of R&R racing in the pages of *Front Sight*.

Manually Operated Rifle

USPSA's manually operated rifle competition tests the competitor's ability to shoot rifles at extreme ranges or, in the absence of available range, very small targets as far down range as possible. The 2006 MOR champion is Shawn Carlock, who came out of the pack to win, ousting rifle masters Michael Voigt and Matt Burkett despite finishing ninth on stage one.

Carlock is a self-described precision rifle specialist who teaches long range hunting classes, shooting out to 1,000 yards, near his home in of Rathdrum, Idaho. He competed with a .260 Remington (6.5x308). Please see our biography on him on page 36.

The Victors Heavy Metal:

USPSA recently began recognizing "heavy metal" category under Limited Division. Heavy metal specifies the use of at least .44 caliber pistols, .30 caliber rifle, and 12 gauge shotgun with rounds loaded limits. (See the rules for further requirements.) Angus Hobdell

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Ted Puente won his first national title, out-pacing Bruce Piatt in Limited.

won the category, finishing an impressive third overall in Limited Division. Considering the disadvantages of magazine capacity alone compared to the Limited shooters, that's impressive.

Hobdell expressed surprise that he did as well as he did, saying that he was "helped by the large number of partial targets." Where minor caliber shooters might take "insurance shots" to ensure an "A" hit, Hobdell felt the major rifle gave him the option of slowing down and shooting a single round deliberately, knowing he would score well with any decent hit on the target. He says he likes the "every man" aspect of the category. All the equipment is inexpensive and readily available. For example, Hobdell uses a Dan Wesson .45ACP 1911, a Winchester Practical Defender 12 gauge shotgun, and an ArmaLite AR10, the most expensive of the guns.

Hobdell also commented on the effect USPSA competition has had on the military and law enforcement shooters he knows. "They're watching what we use," he said, "you can see it when they start using BladeTech AR mag pouches.

We're the cutting edge."

Limited:

Ted Puente won the 23-man Limited Division field, out-shooting Bruce Piatt by just 24 match points. At one point late in the match Puente said barring a major disaster, Piatt would win. Puente was wrong, and was as surprised as anyone when he came out on top, gaining his first national title. No women competed in Limited. Darrell Humphrey was top Super Senior in 10th place and Marcus Watt took first Senior at 17th overall. Chris Cordoza was first Limited Junior competitor.

Open:

Michael Voigt wrapped up the Open title following a close contest with his long-term rival, defending champion Jerry Miculek. (The two have traded the multi-gun titles back and forth for years.) Miculek finished second by 54 match points. Matt Bur-

kett finished third while Debra Cheek secured top woman (32nd overall). Miculek was also top senior and Ralph Arredondo was top super senior. Nathan Swan was the only junior.

Tactical:

Since its inception, Tactical Division has been wildly popular. That trend continues with Tactical's 77 contestants being the largest contingent in the match. Taran Butler successfully defended his 2005 title over newcomer Daniel Horner (now a member of the Army team) by a slim 33 points. Cheryl Current became the women's champion, finishing 56th. Category winners were Vance Schmid, Senior, and Bruce Parbst, Super Senior. No juniors competed in Tactical.

USPSA would like to thank the many sponsors that helped make the 2006 Multigun Nationals such an outstanding success.



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A Look At The Multi-Gun Equipment Survey



Do you use more than one BIRD-SHOT load? Yes: 66 No: 58
Do you use more than one load for the rifle? Yes: 43 No: 88
Did you bring specialized shot shells (spreader loads, shorter-than-normal shotshells, etc.)? Yes: 33 No: 98
Did you bring any BUCKSHOT? Yes: 17 No: 113

Photo by Dave Thomas.

USPSA President Michael Voigt shot his way to his ninth Open 3-Gun title this year.

Competitors bringing multiple birdshot loads came as no big surprise, but the number of competitors bringing multiple rifle loads raised eyebrows. Is this the influence of ace 3-Gunner Matt Burkett and his video series? How much is this a realization that the 55-grain .223 bullet does not perform well on long-range steel?

The number of competitors bringing special-purpose shotshells to the line was surprising as well. Is this the influence of Todd Salmon, the Practical Shotgun Championships, and other shotgun-specific events?

According to Kim Williams (who served in registration), a number of competitors felt our question about "Did you bring any buckshot?" was a trick, intended to expose illegal equipment. In years past, some ranges have placed bans on buckshot to help prevent bending their steel targets. No. 4 buck in particular has a reputation for decisively flattening even the heaviest steel target, and the popularity of 00 buck for self-defense loads is legendary. For the record, those bans are not anything laid down from on high by NROI. In Multi-Gun competition, buckshot is legal for use on steel targets, and 17 people made use of it in Oregon.

Shotgun Choice

Across the divisions, the Remington 1100/11-87 is the runaway favorite, with 57 competitors choosing to run one. The Benelli Super-90 came in second at 33, followed by the Winchester SuperX2 at 18. Curiously, a pump gun (the Remington 870) came in fourth, with eight shooters bringing one to the match.

Digging deeper into the data, we found the Remington 1100/11-87 most popular in Open division, fielding 24 guns against Benelli's nine. However, that dominance faded in Tactical. There, the Remington 1100 had the largest number of devotees (28) but the various Benellis (24 total) and the SuperX2 (16) held comparable shares of the market.

Rifle Choice

The AR-15 has long dominated the USPSA Multi-Gun market (117 out of 129 responses), but that's only part of the story.

Many of the AR-15's used in our sport are "parts guns," with upper and lower receivers made by different manufacturers. In fact, 54 people had guns with non-matching upper receivers.

These uppers come from a dizzying array of builders, spanning the gamut from DPMS to Hack-Fu, to the MidSouth Tactical Network. Of the many choices, JP Enterprises was most popular, fielding 14 non-matching uppers.

In lower receivers, we had a four-way split. JP led the field (26), followed by Colt (23), Bushmaster (20) and DPMS (20). Armalite and a dozen others picked up the remaining fifth of the field.

Optics Choice

Here we focused on only a few things:

1. Do you use a variable-power

By ROBIN TAYLOR, USPSA STAFF

For the 2006 Multi-Gun USPSA started an equipment survey similar to the one it normally conducts at the pistol matches. For any student of 3-Gun, the data coming back from this first-of-its-kind survey bears a second look.

While the sample size is fairly small (131 total surveys) the results point to the increasing sophistication of the typical 3-Gun competitor. For the sake of space, we avoided questions about pistols and focused on emerging trends within Multi-Gun.

Specialized Loads Common

USPSA aimed four questions at multi-gun competitors pertaining to non-standard load choices. The answers revealed many USPSA shooters carrying task-specific ammo for both rifle and shotgun.

- scope? Yes: 70 No: 57
2. Do you use an illuminated "dot scope?" (Aimpoint, Trijicon ACOG, etc.) Yes: 69 No: 59
3. Do you have more than one sighting system on your rifle? Yes: 54 No: 74

Remember, these numbers are cumulative, so for the optics questions, it's prudent to remove the 18 Limited division questionnaires. When you do, the popularity of multiple aiming systems (frequently featuring a small dot scope) and variable scopes becomes more evident.

Reloading Behavior

Multi-Gun is the province of factory ammo. Across the divisions we found a relatively strong preference for factory match ammo, even in pistol (27 out of 131). Using factory ammo for rifle was very popular (87), but was dwarfed by the near-universal use of factory shotshells (121). Considerably more practiced with re-

loaded ammo (110 pistol, 59 rifle, 31 shotgun), but many left their reloads at home.

Slug Choice

Not surprisingly, the Remington low-recoil slug held a strong lead (61), trailed by Federal (30) Winchester (13) and Wolf (7). What we can't sort out (at this point) is the influence of local availability. Traveling 3-Gunners have been known to buy shotshells when they arrive in their destination city, rather than try to ship (or fly with) twenty pounds of shotshells. Could the local Wal-Mart and sporting goods stores be playing a role in the relatively modest appearances by Brenneke (6), Fiocchi (6), and S&B (5)? What role did the USPSA Ammo program (www.uspsa.org/ammo/) play in the use of Remington low-recoil slugs? One couldn't ask for more convenient 3-Gun ammo delivery than that!

The Limited Conundrum

We don't have enough data at this point, but Limited seems to be rapidly evolving into "the Heavy Metal Division." A quick look at the results on www.uspsa.org shows 11 of 23 people with [HM] for Heavy Metal after their name. The remaining slice of competitors is so small that sample sizes become a problem. For example, the Remington 870 had six competitors using it here – more than a quarter of the field. Does that mean the 870 is that popular in Limited? For Heavy Metal it certainly is, but for semi-auto-based "Limited" it's a fringe player.

We've only just begun gathering data on Multi-Gun events, so we can't tell you with any sort of empirical objectivity what's changing in our sport. However, the survey results of 2006 give us somewhere to start. Now, when someone asks you "What shotgun is most popular in 3-Gun?" You have the answer.

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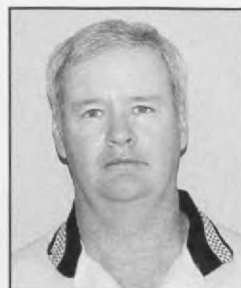


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Fitting a New Extractor

Picture this: You're practicing for that big match coming up next weekend and suddenly your gun starts throwing brass all over the place instead of in the nice little pile it had been. When you check your pistol you find that the hook on the extractor has a big chip in it. Wouldn't it be nice if you knew how to install a new extractor yourself instead of having to send the gun to your pistolsmith? Installing and adjusting an extractor is one of those skills you need to have if you are going to be a putting a lot of rounds down range, and you want to keep your gun in good shape.

I have seen very few extractors break with fewer than 25,000 rounds

of use. However, once past that round count the odds of breakage increase. The odds of it breaking are still small but you know it will happen at the worst time, so it wouldn't hurt to have a backup already fitted (and tested). Also, extractors need to be adjusted periodically. Therefore, you need to know how to evaluate extractor tension and how to adjust accordingly. We will cover how to adjust the tension as part of the installation procedure.

I'll approach this procedure as if you were building a gun from scratch because the tasks are almost the same as installing a replacement. Depending on how your gun is set up, you might be able to skip a couple of steps.

To begin, we must fit the firing pin



Proper extractor-to-case relationship. Notice the inside of the extractor hook does not touch the outer edge of the case.

stop. The firing pin stop should fit in the slide with a minimum of effort. First prep the slide by removing any burrs in the firing pin slot. Burrs can give you a false fit. Now prep the firing pin stop by chamfering the outside edges that ride in the firing pin slot in the slide. This is important because the cuts in the slide and the cut in the extractor have corners that often are not exactly square and we are going to fit the middle of the stop to the middle of the slot.

Once you have done this, measure your slot and your firing pin stop to see how close they are in dimension. Aftermarket firing pin stops are made oversize to fit the slot better and to allow for only a minimum amount of rotation of the extractor (this is called "clocking"). However, some stops are more oversize than others – you will find measurements varying from 0.476 to 0.484 inches. Once you have measured your slot, take a little off each side of the firing pin stop until it slides snugly into place in the slide. Make sure it goes all the way up into the slide. Test for this by inserting the firing pin and then sliding the stop in place. The firing pin should snap into the firing pin stop and there should be no drag on the firing pin. Sometimes the center raised portion of the firing pin stop

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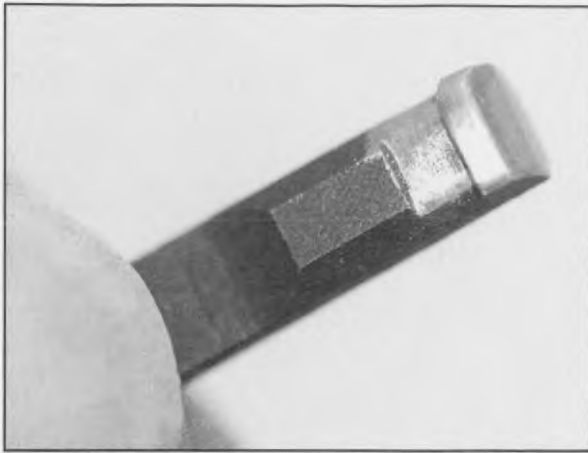
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Detail of the extractor hook. Do not thin the hook to get clearance, as it will weaken the hook and lead to premature breakage.

(the place the hammer hits) is too wide for the slide and causes problems. Other times it is the top of the stop that prevents full insertion. If you tap the stop in with a punch a few times you will usually see a bright spot where the contact is occurring. In either case, locate the appropriate surface and file off a little bit of the material. Go slow if it does not fit and make sure you are taking off material in the proper place.

Once the firing pin stop has been fit to the slide it's time to fit the extractor. Again, you must first do some prep work. Check to see that the firing pin stop slides in the slot in the extractor. It should not bind. If it does, take a little material off each side of the slot. Next, check to see if the extractor will fit into the hole in the slide. Often there are burrs in this hole that will bind the extractor. Clean them up so that the extractor fits the hole. Now prep the extractor hook. The bottom of the hook should be radiused both on

the bottom side of the hook and on the inside underside of the hook so that a round can cam up underneath the hook easily.

Once this is done, insert the extractor into place in the slide and see if the firing pin stop will fit. If it does not, take a little material off the side of the firing pin stop and re-check. Keep doing this until the firing pin stop fits. You

want a snug fit, yet you should be able to slide it back and forth with finger pressure.

Now check the hook to breechface clearance – you want approximately 0.062 inch. You can use a 1/16 drill bit to check this. This clearance is needed so that the rim of the case can cam up under the hook without binding as it moves out of the magazine and up the breechface. If you do not have enough clearance take material off the back of the firing pin slot in the extractor until you have enough clearance. Too much

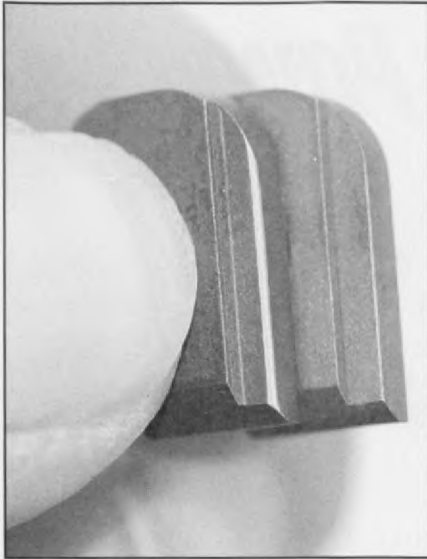
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clearance can lead to the extractor contacting the extractor bevel on the brass. You need just the right amount. Do not take material off the hook to solve this problem – you will thin the hook and this will lead to breakage later on.

Next check the extractor tension. A round should slide up under the hook smoothly but it should be held firmly by the extractor. Too much tension is better than too little. If you get too much tension rounds will not feed completely under the extractor. Not enough breechface clearance or cam up angle on the hook can also cause this. Back off the tension a little by bending the extractor a little at a time until you get the right tension. Bend mostly towards the front half of the extractor. Reassemble the gun and check for extractor contact with the barrel. If this occurs take material off the end of the extractor or remove a little from the barrel.

Once you have everything set up properly, take the gun out and test fire it. Remember that you may also have to adjust the ejector a little after installing a new extractor. Info on adjusting the ejector can be found at www.brazoscustom.com in the "Magazine Articles" section.



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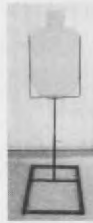
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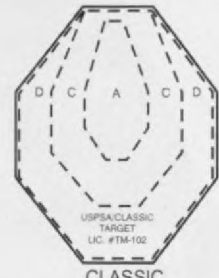
IPSC

18 1/8" x 29 15/16" O.A.

Weight per 50: 20 #

Weight per 100: 38 #

50	Lot.....@.65.....	\$32.50
100	Lot.....@.60.....	\$60.00
500	Lot.....@.53.....	\$265.00
1000	Lot.....@.50.....	\$500.00



CLASSIC

46 CM. X 58 CM. O.A.

Weight per 50: 16 #

Weight per 100: 30 #

TM TARGET PASTERS

1000 3/4" x 1" pasters Per Roll

Price Per Roll

TM -1 KRAFT - \$3.75

TM -2 WHITE - \$3.75

TM -3 BLACK - \$3.75

TM -4 BUFF - \$3.75

TM -1 KRAFT - 48 ROLLS & UP \$3.30

50	Lot.....@.65.....	\$32.50
100	Lot.....@.60.....	\$60.00
500	Lot.....@.53.....	\$265.00
1000	Lot.....@.50.....	\$500.00

ROLL PATCHING TAPE

TANNEUTRAL

almost invisible, 3/4" x 60 yds. roll

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6/\$2.70\$16.20

12/\$2.55\$30.60

24/\$2.40\$57.60

48/\$2.25.....\$108.00

WHITE

3/4" x 60 yds. roll

1/\$3.75\$3.75

6/\$3.60\$21.60

12/\$3.40\$40.80

24/\$3.25\$78.00

48/\$3.10\$148.80

BLACK

3/4" x 60 yds. roll

1/\$3.30\$3.30

6/\$3.10\$18.60

12/\$3.00\$36.00

24/\$2.75\$66.00

48/\$2.60\$124.80

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Tungsten/Steel guide rod



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USPSA Board of Directors Meeting:

March 4-5, 2006 – Dallas, TX

Present:

President-Michael Voigt,
Vice President-John Amidon,
Executive Director-Dave Thomas,
Area 1-Bruce Gary,
Area 2-Chris Endersby,
Area 3-Emanuel Bragg,
Area 4-Kenneth Hicks,
Area 5-Gary Stevens,
Area 6-Charles Bond,
Area 7-Rob Boudrie,
Area 8-George Jones

Saturday, March 4, 2006

9:05 a.m.

President Michael Voigt called the meeting to order.

1: Approval of agenda.

Area 1 moved to accept the agenda.

Area 5 seconded.
Passed.

New: Area 8 moved to add a review of the standing committees and to appoint a nominating committee to the agenda.

Area 5 seconded.
Passed

2: Approval of Directors actions in 2005.

The President moved to approve the actions taken by the board on behalf of USPSA in 2005.

Area 1 seconded.
Passed.

3: Approval of earlier 2005 BOD minutes.

The President moved to accept the 2005 BOD minutes to date as published.

Area 2 seconded.
Passed.

4: Classification Committee Report.

BOD discussion concern-

ing a single classification, a dual classification system for optic/iron sight divisions and several other options were discussed to give the classification committee direction for future proposals.

9:26 a.m.

5: Point Series Committee Report.

Division 2006 Registration to Date Total 2005
Open 14 18
Limited 09 25
Limited 10 06 08
Production 07 09
Revolver 05 04
Single Stack 02 N/A

Match Directors are encouraged to register shooters for the Point Series at all 2006 Point Series matches.
Charles Bond, Chairman
Area 6 Director
9:32 a.m.

6: Bylaw Committee Report.

No report was presented.

7: Marketing Committee Report.

The board directed the marketing committee to develop a policy and rate schedule for web site advertising.
10:15 a.m.

8: Finance Committee Report.

The finance committee reported that the association showed positive cash flow in 2006 and was able to increase cash reserves.
10:19 a.m.

9: Audit Committee Report.

The audit was just com-

pleted at Sedro Woolley. The Audit Report will be presented to the BOD for approval when completed by the auditors.

New: Director NROI Periodic update report

Director NROI Periodic update report 3/3/06

So far this year, there has been 6 matches with their COF's approved, the break down is:

One Nationals—Single Stack

Two Area Championships

Four others, one level II and three Level III

Currently there are two pending approval, waiting for stage corrections and form C to be sent.

With Rob's help, we have in place, the RM and TD renewal process on line, they enter their own matches worked and other info, and if verified, they maintain their certification.

Again with Rob's help, we have an online posting system to the match calendar, NROI regulates the pending status and once approval has been verified, either by a SC CRO if a level II or by NROI's signing of the form C, status is upgraded to approved by NROI.

NROI report for the BOD.

Recap of 2005 classes, there were a total of 28 classes taught in 2005, 25 were RO and 3 were CRO, these resulted in 738 new certifications, some of the CRO certifications came from the CRO correspondence course, which had 36 applicants with 19 of them completing the course. We also had 2 new TD's certified and 2 new RM's, the total breakdown is 605 RO's, 129 CRO's, 2 RM's and 2 TD's

2006 is off to a great start, currently we have

13 classes on the board right now with 9 waiting for finalization, which is 22 classes already for 2006, remember, we had only 28 total for 2005.

We added a new instructor for 2006, that brings us to a total of 9 who will be teaching classes effective this year, seems we added just in time for a busy season.

Regards,
John Amidon
Director NROI
10:26 am

10: Change in designation of the equipment fund to the equity fund.

Area 1 moves that we remove "equipment" as a specific board-designated fund, and that any existing amounts in that fund be transferred to general operating accounts.

Area 6 seconded.

Passed.

10:36 a.m.

11: Merging the building and marketing funds into a single marketing fund.

Area 1 moves that we remove "building" as a specific board-designated fund, and that any existing amounts in that fund be transferred to the marketing fund.

Area 3 seconded.

Passed

10:50 a.m.

12, 13, 14: Employee Salaries

Area 1 moves to table.

Area 4 seconded.

10:52 a.m.

15: 2007 World Team qualification matches.

Area 1 moves the minutes reflect that proposals for World Team Qualification matches must be received at the USPSA office on or before 7/31/2006. Contact the USPSA office for criteria and submis-

sion procedures. This information may be released for immediate posting on the USPSA website.

Area 3 seconded.
Passed
11:15 a.m.

16: 2006 National Championships

The board was briefed on the progress of each Nationals venue. The BOD was also briefed that the online waiting list for 2006 Nationals slots will go "live" May 1st, 2006 at 12:00 midnight EST (the first second of May 1st).
12:00 pm

Area 1 moves to adjourn for lunch.

Area 2 seconded.

1:28 pm Meeting is called back into session by President Michael Voigt.

1:29 p.m.

Area 1 moves the meeting enter Executive Session.

Area 5 seconded.
3:30 pm

Area 8 moves the meeting come out of Executive Session.

Area 7 seconded.

Area 1 moves to remove agenda items 12-14 Employee Salaries from the table.

Area 5 seconded.

Budget – Area 1 moves to direct the Executive Director to revise the 2006 budget to reflect the adjusted salaries as approved by the Board, effective retroactive to 1/1/06.

Area 6 seconded.
Passed
3:58 p.m.

17: Future National Championship Sites.

The President updated the board on future National Championship sites.
4:13 p.m.

18: IPSC President's Council Meeting Panama

The President updated the board members on the meeting in Panama.
4:41 p.m.

19: IPSC and USPSA-Planning for the Future

Area 1 moves to table.
Area 2 seconded.
4:42 p.m.

20: 1911 Single Stack Division holster discussion.

The board discussed drop-down style holsters and whether they fall into the current rules.
The board advised that there should be a statement made for immediate release concerning this style of holster.

Released statement - Single Stack Holsters Holster rules for the USPSA Single Stack Division will continue as written through 2006. The BOD felt it was in the best interest of the growth of 1911 Single Stack Division to not change any rules before 2007 if at all possible. The BOD is gathering data throughout 2006 to revise the rules for 2007 to keep the purpose and design of 1911 Single Stack Division from being diluted. Expect changes in 2007.
5:44 p.m.

21: Should we adopt a single classification for all divisions?

Area 1 moves to table.
Area 5 seconded.
5:54 pm

24: Policy allowing clubs to deny participation to individuals which were terminated from USPSA membership by action of the Board of Directors.

Area 1 moves to table.
Area 5 seconded.

25: Mandatory USPSA membership to compete in all USPSA matches?

Area 1 moves to table.
Area 5 seconded.
5:55 p.m.

26: Web match calendar listing and Point Series Policy.

The board was updated on how the web match calendar was coming along and discussed what level matches should be listed on

the calendar.

"USPSA will be offering a free service which will allow affiliated clubs to list all local matches on the USPSA.ORG web site by January 1, 2007. The board will be considering a policy of including only Level II and above matches on the Major Match calendar and Major Match results section."
6:00 p.m.

27: USPSA official match ammunition program.

The board was given an update on the official match ammunition program and discussed drawing up a standard form for shooters to use.
7:00 pm

Area 1 moves to adjourn the meeting.

Area 2 seconded.

Sunday, March 5, 2006

Officers Present: President-Michael Voigt, Vice President-John Amidon, Executive Director-Dave Thomas
Directors Present: Area 1-Bruce Gary, Area 2-Chris Endersby, Area 3-Emanuel Bragg, Area 4-Kenneth Hicks, Area 5-Gary Stevens, Area 6-Charles Bond, Area 7-Rob Boudrie, Area 8-George Jones
8:10 am

President Michael Voigt called the meeting to order

10:25 am

Area 6 moved to go into Executive Session.

Area 4 seconded.
10:55 a.m.

Area 6 moved to come out of Executive Session.

Area 2 seconded.

Area 4 moves to ratify the suspension of Denise Minor (L600) resulting in termina-

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tion of USPSA membership, effective immediately.

Area 6 seconded.
Passed.

Area 4 moves to ratify the suspension of Arnie Christianson (L2323) resulting in termination of USPSA membership, effective immediately. Seconded by the President. Passed.

11:06 am

25: Mandatory USPSA membership to compete in all USPSA matches.

Area 8 moves to pull off the table.
Area 2 seconded.
Discussion, no action taken.
11:10 am

24: Policy allowing clubs to deny participation to individuals which were terminated from USPSA by action of the Board of Directors.

Area 1 moves to pull off the table.
Area 6 seconded.
Discussion, no action taken.
11:27 am

19: IPSC and USPSA-Planning for the future.

Area 1 moves to pull off table.
Area 2 seconded.

Area 1 moves as follows:

Insofar as the International Practical Shooting Federation (IPSC) and its sole recognized affiliate for the United States region, The United States Practical Shooting Association (USPSA) share a common interest in promoting shooting competition, and;

Insofar as USPSA has historical, practical and reasonable needs to deviate in several and various ways from the IPSC rules for the conduct of shooting competitions within the United States, and has continuously maintained a long-standing precedent for doing so, and;

Insofar as neither IPSC nor USPSA desire to detrimentally affect their current affiliation, nor to detrimentally affect the image or operations of the other,

The Board of the United States Practical Shooting Association hereby declares its desire to resolve this issue in a manner that benefits the interests of both organizations, to

wit:

The United States Practical Shooting Association will offer and promote IPSC competition within the United States, in accordance with IPSC rules, and in doing so fully satisfies its obligations under the IPSC constitution and affiliation agreement.

Separately, the United States Practical Shooting Association will offer and promote other forms of shooting competition within the United States, in accordance with such rules, policies and procedures as it

deems appropriate, with specific details established by further action of the Board.

Because the United States Practical Shooting Association currently operates under an existing IPSC waiver granting authority for a United States rulebook, and because it is our mutual desire to minimize any disruption to competitors within the United States, it is reasonable and necessary for the IPSC Executive Council to approve our request for an extension of the current rulebook waiver through 12/31/2007.

New Masters June-Sept 2006

New Open Grand Masters

Bridgman, Joe	A25586
Norris, B.j.	A44276
Platt, Joseph N.	A29071
Widmer, Gregory R.	A11977

New Open Masters

Bean, John	TY44986
Booth, Hunter	A43995
Champion, Kevin	TY41960
Dean, Tom	A44698
Illarina, Alvin	TY49771
Lee, Athena	A45104
Mcgee, Bobby	A44034
Mchugh Jr. M.d., Bernie G.	TY50501
Mouret, John A.	TY44873
Ramirez, Jr., Robert F.	A37520
Stanley, Eric Lee	L2443
Stiedle, John P.	A23320
Upchurch, Clint	TY52287
Walsh, Cliff	L2519

New Limited Grand Masters

Hostetter, Robert L.	L2096
Tag, Alan	TY51215

New Limited Masters

Bridgman, Joe	A25586
Campbell, Zach	A54497
Clough, Steve	F54898
Cottell, George R.	L1530
Dougherty, Darryl	A19231
Foley, Michael	TY47474
Kaczorowski, Joel	A55192
Kimme, Douglas J.	CA30
Lane, Antoine	A50592
Mlekush, Monte	TY30704
Norris, B.j.	A44276
Parry, Drex	TY35832
Platt, Joseph N.	A29071
Reid, Bryan F.	A46688
Sotorrio, Rene A.	L2564
Walsh, Cliff	L2519
Watts II, Harold	TY45789
Williams, Hal	A49640
Zerwas, Steven E.	L2504

New Limited 10 Grand Masters

Gaskill, Kert A.	TY33364
Louque, James	TY28804
Puente, Ted C.	TY42094

New Limited 10 Masters

Carroll, Kevin C.	TY33759
Cassell, Jeff	A48971
Doyle, Patrick	TY48936
Hodgdon, Charles F.	A20728
Hostetter, Robert L.	L2096
Jonasson, Nils	FY48138
Makkos, Dean	A38577
Paek, Peter	A53317
Rock, Jay	A50407
Sotorrio, Rene A.	L2564
Walsh, Cliff	L2519
Wright, Robert A.	TY34339

New Production Grand Masters

Erickson, Dave	A41532
Hill, John P.	FY42385
Maljian, Ara	A23079

New Production Masters

Avery, Ronald E.	L2747
Cargill, Cliff	L1610
Coley, Shane A.	TY51938
Degracia, Jeffrey	A56592
Duncan, John M.	TY42435
Fuson, Eric	A55840
Hostetter, Robert L.	L2096
Jonasson, Nils	FY48138
Keen, Chris	TY46956
Mackey, Jay	TY54207
Ovaert, Lee	TY23850
Redovian, Richard	FY10937
Stanley, Eric Lee	L2443
Swanson, Trapr	TY41231
Trout, Matthew D.	TY40855
Whitelaw, Grady	FY375
Widmer, Gregory R.	A11977

New Revolver Grand Masters

Jonasson, Nils	FY48138
Parker, David	A53502
Walsh, Cliff	L2519

New Revolver Masters

Carmony, Mike	A23819
Sardina, John T.	A39028

USPSA Board of Directors On-Line Vote: Aug 14-18, 2006

This approach in no way represents a violation of the IPSC Constitution or the affiliation agreement currently in effect between USPSA and IPSC, and in fact represents a resolution to a long-standing conflict and a substantial growth opportunity for both organizations. Accordingly, the Board of the United States Practical Shooting Association directs its President, as the Regional Director for the US Region of IPSC, to communicate this direction to the IPSC Executive Council.

Area 4 seconded.
Passed
11:50 am

Area 1 moves for USPSA to make announcement release re: agenda item 19: IPSC and USPSA-Planning for the future.

Area 8 seconded.
Passed
12 noon

New: Area 8 moves that the Executive Director revise existing policy to permit up to 6 classifiers at a special classifier match, and to revise the fee schedule as appropriate. Revised policy will go into effect on a date to be announced later.

Area 1 seconded.
Passed
12:23 pm

New: Area 8 moves to ratify the Tulsa contract.

Area 4 seconded.
Passed

New: Motion to select Nominating committee. The board result is Area 8-Chairman, Area 2, Area 3 members.

Moved by Area 1
Area 4 seconded.
Passed
1:00 pm

Area 6 moves to adjourn

Area 8 seconded.



Title: Production Approval Numbers

Date of Motion: 8/14/06 12:51 AM

Closed: 8/16/06 12:00 AM

Submitted by: President

Seconded by: Area2

Status: Posted

Result: Passed

Motion: "For a handgun to be approved on the Production gun list, it must first meet the requirements as outlined in appendix D9 of the current USPSA handgun rules. Secondly, the NROI manufacturer's declaration form must be submitted to NROI, stating that a minimum of 2000 have been manufactured and available to the general public. Once NROI has reviewed the handgun, and has received the signed manufacturer's declaration, the handgun will be approved for USPSA Production division and posted to the approved list as well as a statement made on the USPSA web site."

Area1: Yes

Area2: Yes

Area3: Yes

Area4: Yes

Area5: Yes

Area6: Yes

Area7: Yes, Rollcall Requested

Area8: Yes

President: Yes

Title: Limited/Limited 10 Approval Numbers

Date of Motion: 8/14/06 12:54 AM

Closed: 8/16/06 12:00 AM

Submitted by: President

Seconded by: Area2

Status: Posted

Cameras roll as past national champion Bennie Coolley leaps into action with the pistol.

Result: Passed

Motion: "For a handgun to be approved for USPSA Limited or USPSA Limited 10 divisions, it must first meet the requirements as outlined in appendix D7 or D8 of the current USPSA handgun rules. Secondly, the NROI manufacturer's declaration form must be submitted to NROI, stating that a minimum of 500 have been manufactured and available to the general public. Once NROI has reviewed the handgun, and has received the signed manufacturer's declaration, the handgun will be approved for USPSA Limited/Limited 10 division and posted to the approved list as well as a statement made on the USPSA web site."

Area1: Yes

Area2: Yes

Area3: Yes

Area4: Yes

Area5: Yes

Area6: Yes

Area7: Yes, Rollcall Requested

Area8: Yes

President: Yes

Title: Policy Release/ Effective Date

Date of Motion: 8/16/06 03:12 PM

Closed: 8/18/06 12:00 AM

Submitted by: President

Seconded by: Area2

Status: Posted

Result: Passed

Motion: Results of both motions be released immediately. Both policy changes will be effective immediately.

Area2: Yes

Area5: Yes

Area6: Yes

Area7: Yes, Rollcall Requested

Area8: Yes

President: Yes



WHEELGUNS *continued from page 9.*

Coralville, Iowa, Police Department it may be just another day at the office.

Mike Carmoney led a contingent of shooters from Iowa and bested World Shoot XIV competitor "El Conquistador," Cliff Walsh, who flew in from Florida. Mike shot a near perfect match, stumbling a bit only on Stage 8, a relatively small 45-point affair. Cliff hung in tight but jet lag must have caught up with him on Stage 5, where a slow time sealed his second place finish.

Then there's Roger Davis of Oklahoma. What can one say but WOW! Roger shoots a S&W 686 with speed loaders, using minor-factor ammunition! His reloads give up nothing to a moon clipped 625, but he didn't become an ICORE Open Revolver Master by luck — there's a fierce competitor lurking behind that quiet facade! Roger beat out Arkansas's Mike Luttrell by just two match points for third overall and the "B" Class win.

Another Speed Loading competitor, Mike Widebrook, muscled his Ruger GP100 .357 Magnum around in full major-factor trim, placing at 69 percent.

Amid the autoloaders, the Limited 10 Overall Winner and Kansas State Limited 10 Division Champion, Joe Hemmer, won his victory during the first day's blazing heat. He posted scores that would trounce the other ten Limited 10 competitors by more than 10 percent. Joe, Jim Mistler and Scott Lane ran neck-and-neck until a penalty on Stage 2 tripped Jim up, landing him in second overall. An off-pace run of steel on Stage 4 pushed Scott down to third, but still good enough for a "B" Class win.

In Open Division, local speedster Rick Byfield edged out John Aull for Overall and State Champion by .172%. Here again we had a horse race leading throughout the match, with the win decided during the final course. On Stage 1 Rick showed why

there's a Grand in front of that M by scorching through the stage in 15.3 seconds, besting John's time by more than two seconds. John still claimed the "M" Class win and J.D. Smith took both third and Super Senior.

In Limited Division Chad Rutherford came down from Iowa and claimed his usual trophy for High Overall in Limited Division. Chad's a machine, posting the largest winning percentage differential (17 percent) of any division. Gary Lawrence took second and became the Kansas State Limited Champion. Douglas Stephens captured fourth overall and high "B" class.

In Production Jay Mackey Sr. beat up on his son Jay Jr. for the High Overall. Jay Jr. was second with 89 percent of Dad, 13 percent ahead of third place Mark Hoepfner. Joe Lopez took fourth overall and won "C" Class along with the Kansas Production Division Champion title.

While the Capital City Practical Shooters have hosted the Sunflower Classic for several years, this time they upgraded it to a sectional — the first one in Kansas for many years. With the able leadership of Kansas's new section coordinator, Jerry Nelson, the future is looking much better for Kansas. His first year as Section Coordinator and he jumps in and gets a sectional — that can only mean one thing. It's going to get better!

CZ USA has sponsored the Sunflower Classic for many years and continued their support when that match morphed into a sectional. Another major sponsor was Randy Lee of Apex Tactical, catering mostly to the revolver side of the house. He donated several expensive certificates for revolver action work and parts. If you haven't heard of Apex, you must not be a revolver enthusiast. Randy can get a double action revolver pull down to four pounds, and he's still not satisfied. His work is top notch and smooth as glass. Hogue donated a bunch of their fabulously popular grips. Prairie Skies had three of their Moon Caddies on the table — revolver shooters gotta' have a cool way to store their loaded

moon clips. One went to the High Revolver Shooter, but Mike Carmoney already had one. He graciously donated the moon caddy he was to get this year to our lady revolver competitor. Classy move Mike. How many times do you see a division winner hand over their prize?

A big thank you goes out to all of the sponsors, volunteers, range officers, and competitors. Hope to see all of you again next year.

For a complete listing of the Match Results see the USPSA website or <http://www.capitalcitygunclub.com/pistol/ccps.html>

Limited Division

M	Chad Rutherford	HOA
A	Gary Lawrence	Kansas State Champion
M	Tanner Cunningham	3rd OA, High Junior
B	Stephen Douglas	
C	Shelby Smith	
D	Dave Anderson	

Open Division

GM	Rick Byfield	HOA, Kansas State Champion
M	John Aull	
M	J.D. Smith	High Super Senior
B	Austin Griffith	
C	Norm Chamberlain	

Revolver Division

A(M)	Mike Carmoney	HOA
M	Cliff Walsh	
B	Roger Davis	
M	Dave Williams	Kansas State Champion
C	Steve Jensen	
C	Stephanie Luttrell	High Lady

Production Division

A	Jay Mackey Sr.	HOA
B	Jay Mackey Jr.	High B, 2nd OA, High Junior
C	Joe Lopez	High C, Kansas State Champion
D	Brett Kuhns	
C	LeAnn Robertson	High Lady

Limited 10 Division

A	Joe Hemmer	HOA, Kansas State Champion
B	Scott Lane	
C	Tom Champion	



NROI continued from page 4.

Answer

First let me say that the command is "are you ready?" which I admit, is a question. But if you read 8.3.2, it states that failing to give a negative response indicates that they fully understand the COF.

The competitor does not have to respond (though it is a courtesy), I usually wait two seconds and if no indication of any kind and the shooter has taken the start position, I simply state "standby."

Targets Not Repaired

To whom it may concern,

This happened at a local match and I did not like the decision. However, if this were to happen at a major match, can you please clarify..

What is the proper ruling for targets not pasted, prior to a competitor shooting a course. I don't quite understand the rule book here?

At a match last week, after shooting a course of fire, it was found that some of the targets had not been pasted after the previous shooter had completed and been scored. What is the correct call for the RO. ? Is it to award the best two shots on that target? Or to award a reshoot? Or let the competitor choose before hearing their time and score? To me the rule book is a little gray here when it talks about... whether or not the RO can accurately score the targets.

Answer

First let me say that for targets not to be pasted after every competitor is a reflection wholly on the RO, it is the RO's job to give everyone the same fair opportunity. By not checking a simple thing like this, the RO is affecting the "level-ness" of the playing field. However, everyone is human, and mistakes are made.

Rule US9.1.4 was made mainly due

to this human error, it reads:

Unrestored targets - If, following completion of a course of fire by a previous competitor, one or more targets have not been properly patched or taped for the competitor being scored, the Range Officer must judge whether or not an accurate score can be determined. If there are extra scoring hits or questionable penalty hits thereon, and it is not obvious which hits were made by the competitor being scored, the affected competitor must be ordered to reshoot the course of fire.

If the RO cannot determine which hits were the shooter's, there is no other option than a reshoot, we do not award the highest hits, nor allow the competitor to choose, I can either score your target, or I can't. If I can't, it's a reshoot.

Penalties, Penalties

I have two questions on penalties at a Level I club match that need your ruling for future use.

1. Course of fire (see attachment) has seven poppers, PP1-PP3 are to be engaged from Box A only and PP4-PP7 from Box B only. Shooter engaged PP1 and PP3 from Box A, moved to Box B and engaged PP4-PP7 plus the forgotten PP2. What's the ruling on this?

2. Course description states that all targets are to be engaged with a minimum of two rounds each. Shooter engaged all targets with two rounds except for the last target, where he ran out of ammo and engaged the target with only one round. Should there be any penalty for not fulfilling the course requirement of engaging all targets with a minimum of two rounds?

Answer

1. One procedural for engaging popper two from the improper posi-

tion, rule 10.2.9 allows them to retreat to the previous location unless the stage briefing says they can't.

2. One miss, per 9.2.2.


Unloaded Sight Pictures, USPSA Versus IPSC Rules

At our recent match, the question was brought up (again) about "if," "when," and "how" a shooter was allowed to draw their weapon and take a sight picture. When I began explaining Section 8.7, I was informed by another shooter that this section had apparently been thrown out.

This experienced shooter stated that he was at the Florida Open, and while there, this issue came up and it was determined that at "NO TIME" was a shooter allowed to draw and take an unloaded sight picture. I stated that it was probably a match rule that pertained to that match, and this same experienced shooter told me that "No, this was across the board and affects all USPSA matches." Now, usually I take an argument of this nature "with a grain of salt," but this shooter is an avid gunsmith and writer. I found it hard to believe that he would mistake anything that was said. So, I turn to you for guidance. Has the rule changed and have I overlooked notification of the change somewhere?

Answer

Section 8.7 has some the rules with US8.7.1 N/A etc., the not applicable means, that the IPSC rule of 8.7.1 etc., does not apply in the US, therefore, sight pictures are allowed as long as they are not restricted by the MD, if they are, the competitors must be notified in the stage briefing. There are currently no restrictions on sight pictures in the US, providing that they are done safely.

That's it for now, hope to see many of you at the Nationals. In the meantime, shoot fast, shoot straight, but most important, shoot safe. 

RICH CARROLL *continued from page 27.*

George left he returned to tell us that a second plane had hit the other tower and that America was under attack. George returned yet again to inform us that the first tower had collapsed. Rich through this whole process never said a word as Deb, George and I talked about what had happened. Rich, seeing my mood drop to a pretty low point because of the implications of what this would do to my first Nationals as a MD and what the implications were for the nation did something I still laugh about. When the sound of George's 4 wheeler approached for the fourth time Rich spoke up and said, "I'll take care of this". He met George half way across the range and told him in a way only Rich could, "Go away, we don't need any more news today!"

Rich had a special way of breaking things down to the simplest form. He was a great friend who will be dearly missed."

Rich worked setup tirelessly alongside Ray and others at many matches, quietly going about the job of getting things lined up so USPSA members could come out and enjoy a great shoot. He suffered a stroke in 2005 and though many thought he wouldn't be on the range for Nationals that year, he proved us all wrong.

NROI Instructor and multiple National RM/MD, Troy McManus: "Even after Rich's health began to fail, he still came out for setup for Nationals, and was a constant presence during the match. He worked parking detail at his last Nationals, a job I know he hated. He did it with his usual silent acceptance, though. My two daughters were at that match, and they remember "Mr. Rich" working down at the bottom of the hill. Tessa brought him Gatorade and water on a regular basis, because it was very hot. But, Rich never complained, he just got the job done."

I got a bit of history from long-time friends, Tony and Deb Hawkins, who shot and worked

alongside Rich for many years: Tony Hawkins: "I've known Rich since 1991. We mostly shot PPC, Steel Challenges, and NRA action till late in 1992. Then he started shooting some USPSA club matches. From the very beginning he would always help with setup and teardown of any of the matches he went to. In 1995 he decided to get official RO certification. A level one RO class was held in Riley, Indiana at the WVPPS range. Jay Worden, Rich's level one instructor and Steve Kalamen, Rich's level two instructor (CRO) played a huge part in Rich's life. They provided the knowledge that Rich wanted and needed to become a better USPSA competitor and range officer.

"Rich was always a quiet man, but when he did speak, what he said was worth taking note of. In the early years ('91-95) Rich and I would usually work and shoot club matches 4 weekends a month. In the latter years, he found that he enjoyed working setup and officiating state, area, and National matches. From '95 through '04 Rich worked many matches in Indiana, Illinois and Missouri. As a life member at PASA, when there was any sort of USPSA event going on there, you

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would find Rich doing all he could to help the match run smoothly. In April of '05 Rich had the stroke. Deb and I figured that would be the end of going with Rich to the matches. Three days after the stroke, still lying in the hospital, he was talking about getting better and working the Nationals at PASA. He knew he wouldn't be physically able to run competitors but asked to be kept on staff to work setup and work wherever he could be used during the match. Rich was assigned parking duty in front of S & W Hall; a boring job but I never heard him complain. Rich really loved being involved in all of the shooting sports he participated in."

Deb Hawkins: "They say that friends that come into your life can be put in one of three categories: friend for a reason, season, or lifetime. I really



© 2000 Todd Russell

Dude! why did you shoot from inside the barrel?

RICH CARROLL *continued from previous page.*

thought that Richard Carroll would be one of the first two choices when I met him. I expected to see him at shooting matches and not much else. But somehow, as our shooting schedule increased through the years, so did the level of friendship. From the very beginning, Rich encouraged me to shoot and have fun and not worry about the fact that I was using every box on the score sheet, yes, that means the no-shoots, penalties and procedural boxes.

"Tony, Rich and I worked at Riley, Indiana for several years. Showing up early on Sunday to set up all the stages, shooting, R.O. ing, and then staying to tear it all down. And somewhere in all the dinners that I fixed for the people who came over to our house to help build props and paint walls for Riley, Rich became part of our family. If we were not at a shooting match or planning for one, we were at a gun show or

just spending a weekend together eating good food and talking guns, his passion and Tony's too.

"Rich was a quiet, non-judgmental person, who always tried his best to be fair in all the calls that he made as an R.O. He liked everyone and talked to anyone that talked to him. He always preferred to be in the background than front and center. Always willing to loan out holsters, belts, mags, or whatever a new shooter might need. Never asking for anything in return. In the end, we asked people to send us e-mails that we could read to Rich. Several of you did and I am grateful for that. He LOVED to hear them and asked us to read them to him more than once. He touched the lives of so many people and he didn't even know it."

While I would love to publish every kind comment and remembrance of Rich I've received over the past few

weeks since his death, space just doesn't allow. Suffice it to say that Rich was well loved and will be well and truly missed.

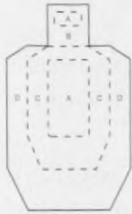
During the memorial service Rich's ashes were spread on the range at his request as we all raised a glass (or a bottle) to his memory and a new stairway and plaque (pictured here) were dedicated to his memory. It connects the lower bays in the valley with the upper bays, making it a lot easier for shooters to get from point A to point B. All the materials and labor were donated by Rich's friends and the beautiful plaque was donated by Area 3 Director, Emanuel Bragg. It will stand as a lasting testament to all that Rich meant to the people in his community as well as the USPSA community.

Godspeed, Mr. Carroll. You will be deeply missed.



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Contact: Paul Caudill, (602) 989-1389, pcaudill@cox.net
Contact: Barbara Lamarca (480) 986-2672, rlamarca@cox.net

Level: 3
Point Series: Area Championship

2. South Florida Sectional/Brian Haas Memorial Foundation Charity Match

Nov. 2006, Naples, Fla.,
Contact: Erikka Thalheimer, (239) 774-4912, (239) 261-8422 erikka9393@aol.com
Level: Charity

3. 2007 South Carolina Section Championship

April 13 - 14, 2007 (1 day format)
Contact: Jack Suber (lightning-jack@bellsouth.net) or 803-790-0825
http://lchico.5u.com

Level: 2 - Pending
Point Series: Section Championship (Pending)

4. Double Tap Championship

March 23-25, 2007, Wichita Falls, Texas
Contact: Robert Porter (940) 692-3846 2x-tap@sbcglobal.net
www.doubletapranch.com
Level 2
Point Series: Pending

5. USPSA Single Stack Nationals (Single Stack Classic)

April 26-28, 2007, Barry, Ill., (PASA Park)
Location: PASA Park, Barry IL
Contact: Dick Heinie (217) 228-9500
rheinie@heinie.com
www.1911society.org/
Level: III
Pointseries: No

6. 2007 Mississippi Classic

May 18-20, 2007, Jackson, MS
Contact: John Heiter (601) 925-5372

john@teammagnolia.com
http://www.teammagnolia.com
Level: III
Pointseries: Other Tournament (pending)

7. Area 4 Championship 2007

June 7-10, 2007 Clark Range, Princeton, La.,
Contact: Ken Hicks, Area4@uspsa.org
http://www.uspsa4.org
Level: III
Pointseries: Area Championship

8. West Coast Dual Championship: Production/Single Stack

July 13-15, 2007, Hogue Action Pistol Range, San Luis Obispo, Calif.,
Contact: Mike & Souzan Nelson (805) 528-1462 mn-snuspsa@msn.com
www.sanluisactionpistol.org
Level: III
Pointseries: No

9. 2007 Area 8 Championship

Aug. 2-5, 2007, Pitcairn-Monroeville Sportsmens Club
Contact: Lew Walker, radi-olew@hotmail.com
Second Contact: George Jones (201) 236-0255 hlcptr@op-tonline.net
http://Area 8 website uspsa8.org
Level: III
Pointseries: Area Championship (pending)

10 2007 Golden Bullet Championship

Aug. 10-12, 2007, Hogue Action Pistol range, San Luis Obispo, Calif.,
Contact: Niels Mastrup (805) 737-2403, Niels.Mas-trup@worldminerals.com
Level: III
Pointseries: No

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1. Area 6 3-Gun Championship

Anniston, Ala., Nov. 3-5, 2006
Contact: Mark Hearn, (256) 283-7382
wmhearn@cableone.net
www.uspsa6.org

2. Superstition Mountain Mystery 3-Gun

Phoenix, Ariz., March TBA, 2007,
Contact: Barbara Lamarca (480) 986-2672, rlamarca@cox.net



3. 2007 Area 1 Multi Gun Championship

Albany Rifle and Pistol Club, Al-

bany Ore., June 29-July 1, 2007
Contact: Mike McCarter (503) 932-0418
nomikes@hotmail.com
Second Contact: Tom Chambers (503) 625-7345 tomdagadget@hotmail.com
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Level: III

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4. Custer Tactical Rifle Match (monthly series)

Nov. 11, 2006 Custer, Wash., (Monthly, DTBA). Contact: Dave Howlett (360) 676-9309, (360) 441-5668 www.custersportsmensclub.com/tactical3gun.html

5. Lake Piru Monthly 3-Gun Matches

Nov. 19, 2006 - Hosted by Joe Alisa at Lake Piru, Ariz., (old SWPL ranges). Matches will be held every 3rd Sunday of the month, minimum of 6 stages. Contact Jack Boyd (818) 769-0395.



MAILBAG continued from page 23.

October, and also marked the first time teams representing the United States received support.

For two years the organization continued to register individual members and clubs, conduct range officer training all over the country and make its presence known to the IPSC community internationally. The 1984 U.S. Nationals were conducted in Phoenix Arizona, and as promised, marked the opportunity for the volunteer staff to turn over the organization to elected officials. The two candidates for President were Dave Stanford and Walt Rauch in a hotly contested election. Voting was based on membership in a section. Stanford prevailed based on the vote of the Illinois Section, indicating just how close it was. It should be noted that Mr. Stanford assumed control of, according to my recollections, approximately 2,000 members, a large group of certified range officials, and approximately 45 sections. Following the electoral meeting a committee developed the area concept which is still in effect today.

Therefore, I can state with a large degree of confidence, that at the point of Mr. Stanford's election the situation was not as bleak as portrayed in the article. USPSA was already established as a force in the international community with a strong membership and active range officer training. Mr. Stanford should certainly be recognized for his further development of the organization during his tenure.

Please feel free to verify the information I have provided with any of the gentlemen named above. I would also point out that much of this information was published in an IPSC history column I wrote for *Front Sight* several years ago at the urging of Dave Thomas. Thank you for all the excellent articles you produce for our reading pleasure, and please feel free to contact me if I might provide any other information.

Captain Dave Arnold
Director of Personnel and Training
Virginia Peninsula Regional Jail
Williamsburg, VA 23185

Multi-Gun Kudos For Andrew McCarter

I just got back from the Multigun

Nationals. It was a great time! The stats people were amazing, the ROs were friendly and efficient. Just about everything ran efficiently and was ahead of schedule most of the match!

Thanks to everyone at Nationals because it was a smooth-running match with great people and fun stages!

I was personally glad they had to change the parking lot. The new one was closer to most things, and everyone was friendly and helpful, which brings me to Andrew McCarter.

Andrew drove the tractor they used for the shuttle, and while you never know about shuttles, Andrew was always where our squad needed him. We'd ask him to pick us up at a certain time and ask him to take us somewhere, and he was always there. He had a smile all the time, suggested restaurants in Albany, and bragged about the facilities and people found here on his home range.

Our squad felt like he was at our beck and call. He spoiled us to where we thought he was just watching out for us old people, and it made us feel special. But as I talked to other shooters, he was there for everyone.

When they took away the tractor to tear stuff down, Andrew secured a golf cart to get people around because he'd promised to take us down to scores. I've always found everyone in the sport to be friendly, but he was an excellent example of what we want our shooters to be. He was mature, helpful, and an amazing young man! I can't wait to see him shoot some day! I'm sure he'll join us in 3-Gun any day now!

Cheryl Current, the ladies Tactical Champion was on my squad, and we both want to offer special thanks to Andrew McCarter, tractor driver of the year!

Denise Johnson, TY-36757

Corrections, Omissions, Goofs

BY ROBIN TAYLOR, TY-19724, USPSA STAFF



Wrong Spelling

Tasha Hanish (Erickson) rightly berated us using an incorrect spelling of her maiden name (Ericksen).

Wrong Last Name

In "Cooper's Crucible, Part II" we made mention of a Tom Carpenter and his innovative chest-holster. That man was actually Tom "Tommy Gun" Campbell of Armor Holdings/Safariland fame. Sorry Tom!

Mixed-Up History

In that same article, we misrepresented the evolution of the *Combat Shooting Report* and *The Competitor*. According to Walt Rausch, Jake Jatras' *Combat Shooting Report* was sold to Al Lubenthal to become *Practical Shooting International*. USPSA's *The Competitor* (then edited by Don Mahoney) would eventually morph into *Front Sight*, with Michael Bane at the helm.

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Action Target58	Masterblasters Bullets9	STI International.45
Alco Target67	Matt Burkett48	Strayer Voigt.Ins. Front Cover
Americantactical.org40	Millennium Custom50	Stunning Guns.3
Arntzen Steel Targets53	Millennium Custom38	Tactical Shooting Technology21
Brazos Custom Gunworks6	MLE Shooting Sports37	Talon Publishing76
Brazos Custom Gunworks68	MLE Shooting Sports / I-Shot17	Target Barn42
Caspian Arms22	Montana Gold Bullets70	Target Taper4
Chris' Winning Shooting Accessories .20	Onlyfineknives.com6	Taylor Freelance47
Clark Custom Guns61	Para-Ordance33	Techwear54
Competition Electronics . .Ins. Back Cover	Precision Bullets29	Techwearusa.ocm54
Competitive Edge Dynamics34, 35	Precision Delta59	Uniquetek, Inc.11
Dawson Precision31	Redding Reloading Equipment26	Universal Shooting Academy14
Dillon Precision16	Rescomp54	Zero Ammunition13
DPMS, Inc.17	Rose Distribution56	
Electronic Shooters Protection57	Rugged Gear65	
Gaspari & Associates15	Safariland55	
Grams Engineering66	Secure Firearm Products5	
Goettel Powerpoint Productions79	Shooter's Connection19	
Hogue43	Sigarms37	
Innova Products14	Single Action Shooting Society18	
Integrated Systems Management Inc. .20	Speed Shooter Specialties49	
JP Enterprises, Inc.51	Speed Shooters21	

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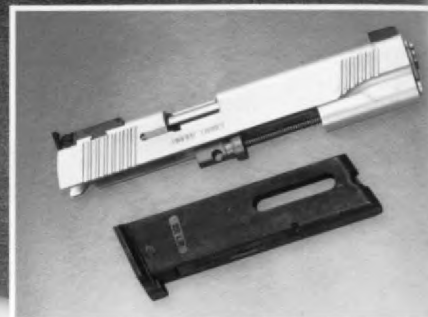


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