

AAFTA News



American Airgun Field Target Association

Volume 14, Number 1

January/February 2004

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From the Editor:

Happy 2004 to you all.

This year's field target season is off and running with the completion of the Florida Superbowl Match. Inside you'll find four pages of coverage. There are also match reports from the end of last season, and entry forms for two upcoming matches.

My long-promised review of Steve Hanson's new book Airgun Odyssey is on page 10.

Shoot straight and enjoy the issue!
Jay

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AAFTA Member Clubs

AA:	Airgunning Atlanta: Atlanta GA Ken Hughes 770-445-0789 mbmedic@techie.com http://www.airgunningatlanta.com	MSFTA:	Mountain State Field Target Association St. Albans, WV Rick McAllister 304-727-2752 rick.mcallister@worldnet.att
AOA:	Airgunners of Arizona; Mesa, AZ Robert Buchanan 480-461-1113	NMAC:	Northern Mississippi Airgun Club; Hernando, MS Stylee Edwards 662-429-5794
BAC:	Bayou Airgun Club; Baton Rouge, LA Jack Kirkendoll 225-755-1715	NOCASA:	Northern California Airgun Shooters Association San Francisco, CA Mike McKeown 707-253-8029
BAGA:	Badgerland Air Gun Association; Bristol, WI Alex Modic 262-895-7251 modic@execpc.com http://www.bagaclub.com	OAFSTA:	Ohio Airgun & Field Target Shooters Association; Vienna OH Rick Smelko 330-637-9442
BEC:	Bulls Eye Club; St. Martinsville, LA Roland Robichaux 318-394-3611	OASA:	Ohio Airgun Shooters Association; Mansfield, OH Bruce Perathaner 419-756-7813
BGAC:	Bluegrass Airgun Club; Lexington, KY Steve Cox 859-263-8378 coxclark@email.msn.com	PA:	Phoenix Airgunners; Phoenix, AZ Bobby L. Cocorran 5325 W. Pierson Phoenix, AZ 95031
CAC:	Carolina Airgun Club; Winston-Salem, NC Jeff Miller 336-764-4734	PEL:	Peltican Airgunners; Dade City, FL Don Vanderwerker 813-621-1509
CARS:	California Accurate Rifle Shooters; Long Beach, CA Bob Winer 562-430-9185 rlwiner@yahoo.com	PFTAC:	Pennsylvania Field Target & Airgun Club Lt. Joseph J. Koslop 717-454-7456
CASA:	California Airgun Shooters Association; Los Angeles, CA Richard Shimizu 562-427-1403	PSC:	Pearland Sportsman's Club; Pearland, TX Bob Zimmerman 713-436-1794
COPS:	Charter Oaks Pelleteers; Beacon Falls, CT Peter Morris 203-723-2098 pmorris@mail.fairfield.edu	RCA:	River City Airgunners; Spokane, WA Tom Price 509-535-7993
CTAC:	Central Texas Airgun Club; Dripping Springs, TX Ron Robinson 512-894-0777	SSG:	Single Shot Group; South Lyon, MI Bill Erwin 313-437-3132
DAFTC:	Dominion Airgun Field Target Club; Harrisonburg, VA Claude Phillipy 540-434-2416 cphillipy@planetcomm.net	TBA:	Tampa Bay Airgunners; Odessa, FL Cliff Smith 813-884-0507
DIFTA:	Damascus Maryland Chapter of the Isaak Walton Leauge of America Steve Schultz 301-365-0291	TRRFTC:	Tacoma Rifle & Revolver Field Target Club Tacoma, WA Jim Benson alf911@webtv.net
DJMC:	Delran Junior Marksman; Delran, NJ John Quiter 732-269-3303	TVA:	Tennessee Valley Airgunners; Huntsville, AL Brad Troyer 256-882-2811
EFTCC:	Eastern Field Target Competitor's Club Wappingers Falls, NY Ray Apelles 845-896-9792 http://www.bestweb.net/~ateamray	WPAA:	Western Pennsylvania Airgun Association; Homer City, PA Mark Troxell 412-256-3163
PR	1st Prairie Rifles; Olathe KS Richard Keeney 913-780-9937	WSC:	Westfield Sportsman's Club; Westfield, MA Paul Bishop Airgunner@Juno.com http://members.cox.net/wsc.field_target/index.html
GIFT:	Grand Isle Field Target; Grand Isle, VT Brian S. Johnson 802-372-4173 GrandIsleFT@hotmail.com	WCSC:	Williamson Conservation & Sporting Club; Williamson, NY Bill Chappell 315-589-2270
HFTC:	Hawaii Field Target Club; Kilauea, HI Joel Efrein 808-828-1203	WWCCA:	Western Wayne County Conservation Association Rick Stoutenberg 734-261-1683 http://www.wvcca.com/clubs/air_gun.htm
IRA:	Indian River Airgunners; Sebastian, FL Rodney Boyce 561-655-5427 rrrboyce@webtv.net	Associate Member Clubs	
MAFTA:	Minnesota Airgun Field Target Association Minneapolis/Saint Paul, MN Jay Olson-Goude 651-699-3048 jolson-goude@msn.com http://mafta.homestead.com	WFTA:	Waterloo Field Target Association Waterloo, Ontario, Canada Hans Bormann 519-745-3244
MCFG:	Marion County Fish & Game Association Indianapolis, IN Anthony Storey 317-925-5544	CMPT:	Club Mexico de Tiro Pneumatico S. de R. L. Y C. V.; Mexico Hector J. Medina Hacienda De La Punta 129 Bosques De Echeagaray Naucalpa Edo. De Mexico 53310
MSTS:	Mid South Tri-State Airgunners Association Memphis, TN Tom Iiterly 901-872-0488		

2004 Match Schedule

January	February	March	April	May	June
31-1: TBA/PEL 2004 Super- bowl/2003 FL State Championships 10: CASA 17: AA 25: CASA	7: CASA 22: CASA 28: AA, WSC	7: WFT 13: AA, WSC, CASA 20: TRRFTC, MSTs 28: CASA	3: CCFT, WSC 3-4: BAC Cajun Spring Classic 10: AA, CASA 17: MAFTA, TRRFTC, MSTs, DAFTC 18: EFTCC 25: WWCCA, CASA	1: MSTs, DAFTC 2: EFTCC, WFT 8: CASA 15-16: MSTs US Mini FT Champion- ships 15: MAFTA, TRRFTC 16: WWCCA, WSC 22: Frost-Bite Open, AA, DAFTC 23: CASA 29: MSTs, WSC	5: AA, DAFTC 6: EFTCC, MAFTA 12: CCFT, WSC, CASA 12-13: TVA Good Ole Boy 13: WWCCA 19: MAFTA, TRRFTC 20: WSC 26: MSTs 27: WWCCA, CASA
July	August	September	October	November	December
4: MAFTA, WFT 10: MSTs, CASA 11: WSC 17: MAFTA, TRRFTC, AA 17-18 WWCCA Great Lakes 100 24-25: DAFTC 23-25: World FT Championships— Ebern, Germany 24: MSTs 25: CASA	1: MAFTA 7: CCFT, MSTs 7-8: EFTCC North- east Regionals 14: AA, CASA 16: WWCCA 20-22: TRRFTC NW Regionals 21: MAFTA, MSTs, WSC 21-22: DAFTC VA State Championship 22: CASA 29: WWCCA	4: MSTSS 5: WFT 11: AA, CASA 12: WSC 18: MAFTA MN State Champion- ships, TRRFTC, MSTs 18-19: DAFTC Shenandoah Valley Regional 19: WWCCA 26: CASA	2-3: US Nationals at TVA 3: EFTCC 9: MAFTA, AA, WSC, CASA 16: TRRFTC, MSTs 17 : WWCCA 24: CASA 30: MSTs, WSC MA State Champi- onships	6: AA 13: MSTs, CASA 14: WSC 21: EFTCC NY State Champion- ships, CASA 27: MSTs	4: AA 11: MSTs, WSC, CASA 26: CASA

Where to find it

FT Air Rifles

Airgun Express(Mako/HW, TX200)	800-896-4867
Airguns Alaska	907-522-5900
Airguns of Arizona (Daystate, Beeman)	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns (Mako/HW77 & 97)	800-227-2744
Benson Airgun Options	888-952-1231
Burroughs International (Career)	310-457-5932
Ken's Airsports (TX200)	419-837-6459
Mac-1 (Steyr)	310-327-3581
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544
Wade Sutherland	622-429-4663
W.W. Mann International	317-241-6011

Airgun Accessories

Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9138
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Ballistic Programs

The "A" Team	845-896-9792
Air Rifle Ballistics	813-634-6507
Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183

Chronograph

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544

Cleaning Kits

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744

Field Targets

Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
Rick Stoutenberg	734-261-1683
Ron Juneau's Cajun Targets juneaur@bellsouth.net	225-261-7435
After Hours Target Company	AfterHoursTargetCo@att.net

Gas Rams

Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	714-724-6169
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Lubricants

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744

Pellets

Airgun Express (Crosman Premier)	900-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Mac-1	310-327-3581

Publications

AAFTA News	813-884-0507
and AAFTA "Club & Shooters Handbook	
Airgun Digest 3rd Edition	800-247-4876
Airgun Illustrated	
U.S. Airgun Magazine	800-247-4876
<u>Airgun Odyssey</u> by Steve Hanson	860-645-8776

Regulators

The "A" Team	845-896-9792
	and/or 914-277-4309
Joe Korick	360-576-8643

Repair & Tuning

Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	714-724-6169
Ken's Airsports	419-837-6459
Mac-1 (Crosman/Benjamin/Sheridan)	310-327-3581

Scopes

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744

Scope Knobs and/or Levels

The "A" Team	845-896-9792
	and/or 914-277-4309
Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Ken's Airsports	419-837-6459
Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
Long-Shot Products, Ltd.	513-683-4999

Scope Mounts

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Mac-1 (Droopers)	310-327-3581
Precision Airgun Ltd. (BKL)	562-430-9183

Silhouette Targets

Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
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Stocks

Wade Sutherland	662-429-4663
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Wind Flags

Direct Wind Flags/Stylie Edwards	662-429-5794
	and/or 901-603-7107

Airgun Videos

Pellethead	800-213-2088
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Awards and Trophies

Bob Zimmerman	713-680-1329
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TVA/Good Ole Boy 4th Annual Championship FT Match

Dates: June 12th & 13th, 2004

Site: Roz's "Hollow," Pulaski, Tn.

Directions: Will be sent to all pre-registrants.

Rules: AAFTA rules apply to scoring, safety, equipment and power limitations (20ft/lbs).

NOTE: Timers on every lane.

Practice Range: Available from sunup to sundown, 6/11-6/13

Course of fire: 2 days, 100 shot match

Match #1: 12 Noon start, 50 shots

Match #2: 09:00 AM start, 50 shots

Divisions: Piston and Pre-charged (no equipment restrictions)

Awards: Champion and 2-5 in each division,

1st Place team, High Junior, High Woman

Need more information?

contact Roz at: 931-424-5314 or Cliff at: csmith57@tampabay.rr.com

Match Limited to 60 Entries

Registration for the TVA/Good Ole Boy Match

June 12th and 13th, 2004

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Rifle _____ Scope _____ Pellet _____

Division(Piston or PCP) _____

Information on accommodations, maps, etc. will be sent upon receipt of registration.

Competitor: \$45.00 ____ (includes Sunday's lunch), guest lunch is \$7.00 each ____

Tank Rental for weekend: \$15.00 Total: _____

Make check payable to: Roz Sumpter

and mail to:

Roz Sumpter

377 Hardy Road

Pulaski, TN. 38478

First U.S. Mini Field Target Championship

DATE: May 15th & 16, 2004

SITE: Mid-South Tri/State Range

LOCATION: Valentine Regional Park, Munford, TN

RANGE DIRECTIONS: A MAP WILL BE SENT TO ALL REGISTRANTS

RULES: MSTs/AAFTA safety rules will apply

AIRGUN/POWER: Pellet rifles/Airguns must chronograph at 20ft/lbs or less

RANGE: Opens May 15th – from 10am to 1:30pm the 16th from 9am to 10am

SHOOTERS MEETING: 1:30pm on the 15th and 10am on the 16th

MATCH START: 2:00 pm on Sat. the 15th and 10:30am on Sun. the 16th

CLASSES: Adult, Junior, Youth, Open sight or scope

AWARDS: Based on pre-entries

ENTRY FEE: \$30.00 for Adults and \$20.00 for juniors/youth

PRE/ENTRY DEADLINE: May 1st, 2004

MEALS: Lunch will be provided on Sunday. Non-Competitor meal is \$5.00 ea.

HOTEL: Best Western, Hwy 51 N. Millington, TN. Mention US Mini Field Target Championships for a Special rate of \$45.00 per night. Call 1-800-937-8376

Please call : Thomas Itterly at 901-872-0488 for further information

REGISTRATION FOR THE First US Mini Field Target Championship

Name: _____ Phone: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Club _____

Air Rifle: _____ Scope: _____

Class: Pcp, Piston, Open Sight, Scope (circle each that apply)

Make check payable to: MSTs Airgunners Assoc.

Mail to: Thomas Itterly

7861 Hickory Meadow

Millington, Tn. 38053

Waterloo field Target Club Christmas Match

December 14, 2003

For a mid December day in Southwestern Ontario, the weather was pretty much what one would expect— not hope for, but expect. There was snow on the ground, the temperature remained below freezing all day and some snow started falling to complete the winter scene. We set up a twenty-four shot outdoor course and a variety of shooting challenges on the indoor range. All together there was a possibility of one hundred and three points.

Five of the eight shooters braved the elements and competed on the outdoor field target course. The snowfall was pretty steady during the entire outdoor match, but it seemed to bother Don the least as he shot a 22/24 to place first in the outdoor section of the match. Dennis was close behind with a 21 and Mike placed third with a 19/24. We then headed back inside to let our guns warm up and the lenses on the scopes had to go through the fog up and clear up period. That gave us all time to have a hot chocolate and get out of the layers of outdoor clothing.

While the five were outdoors shooting, Hans, Bert and Danny completed the indoor events. There were four events indoors, including a stationary chalk shoot, a moving chalk shoot, toy soldier sniping and a buffalo silhouette shoot. Ten pieces of chalk were lined up with about a half an inch sticking up for the stationary shoot. The moving chalk involved a rotating wheel with nine pieces of chalk peeking briefly over the wall by about one half inch and then disappearing. We were given ten shots to hit the nine pieces of chalk. For the snipers in the group, ten toy army men were placed along the edge of a table at twenty yards and we were given ten shots to take them out. They had to be knocked right off the table to count, which would not be a problem with a solid hit, as it turned the soldier into green plastic shrapnel. The buffalo shoot involved looking at the cardboard target with the scoring template in place, then trying to remember where the ten ring was located, with no markings on the target and shooting the buffalo five times, with a minute and a half time limit. It was a lot of fun.

Hans, Dennis, Don, Bert and I all managed to turn the ten pieces of stationary chalk into dust. On the moving pieces of chalk, I managed to create nine dust clouds with nine shots. The one shot, one kill snipers were Hans, Dennis, Bert and I. Bert proved to have the best memory and a steady hand by scoring a perfect fifty out of fifty on the buffalo silhouette target. With a strong showing indoors and out, Dennis was the top gun for the day.

At this point we had a feed of fried chicken, French fries and salads. We went up and chose our favorite mini cap gun off the tree as a prize and also picked a gift from the pile under the tree. It was a great day and a special thank you to Hans and Bert who took care of the indoor events. Thanks also to the guys who chipped in and helped Dennis and I with the outdoor set-up and tear down. I hope to see everyone in the spring for another season of field target shooting.

Tim M^{ac}Sweyn

Shooter	Gun	Scope	Pellet	Score /103
1) Dennis Eden	Anschutz 2025	Leupold 35X	CPH	95
2) Tim MacSweyn	ld/SS 04	Deben 10-50	CPH	92
3) Mike Ferrara	NJR100	Leupold 18-40	Baracuda	89
4) Don Irvine	Steyr FT	Deben 8.5-34	CPH	87
5) George Harde	HW 97	Bushnell 6-24	JSB Exact	70
5) Bert Habitcher	AA300	Simmons 6-20	Baracuda	*75
7) Hans Bormann	AA 410	Bushnell 8-32	Baracuda	*64
8) Danny Reginato	TX200	Bushnell 8-32	Air Arms	*51

*Took part in indoor events only.

CARS

CALIFORNIA ACCURATE RIFLE SHOOTERS

October 18, 2003

Field Target Match

The fourth CARS field target match was again held at Prado Olympic Shooting Park. While the temperature was hot (95+ F°), the usual s-s wind (switching-swirling) was fairly mild at 2-3 mph. However, this was still a factor at several of the farther targets with smaller hit zones. We had only six participants today, partly because our benchrest contingent was shooting at a major center fire match. Of particular note, 4 of the 6 were shooting spring guns. In addition, we posted the actual target distances on the scorecards. It was interesting that advanced posting only helped for a few of the longer distances for a couple shooters who had somewhat underpowered scopes.

Leo Hwong (no surprise!) took first place with a most impressive 39 ex 44 (89%). Tom Olivieri had some equipment problems, but once they were straightened out, he was right on. Now for the springers --- Mike Wann returned from a long hiatus to shoot an incredible 20 (45%), and for our course, that is a fantastic spring gun score! Vince Pacheco, Greg Fuller and Dave Frederick (first outing with CARS for Dave) also did very well. BTW, Dave managed to “clean” two of the hardest targets on the course.

After the match, we held our “Quigley Match” --- by consensus, the Turner Bucket Target was placed at 50 yards and shot off-hand, with the best of five shots being the winner. Well, this was one difficult event, in that of the five participants, only Mike and Dave hit the bucket (1/5). Their shoot-off was then held in the classic field target position. Both of these guys did very well, but Mike hit the target 4/5 times, while Dave hit it twice. Congratulations to all for their fine shooting on a fairly difficult course! Afterwards, we stopped at one of the local eateries for a well-deserved luncheon, tall cool beverages and some interesting discussions.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>		<u>Gun</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Pellet</u>	<u>Muzzle Velocity (fps)</u>
1 Leo Hwong	39	89%	Daystate CRXst	Bushnell 8-32	Premier 10.5	900
2 Tom Olivieri	23	52%	FWB P70 HP	Bushnell 8-32	Premier 10.5	855
3 Mike Wann	20	45%	HW97 Venom	Bushnell 6-18	Premier 7.9	857
Vince Pacheco	13	30%	TX200 MkI	Bushnell 8-32	Lazadome	830
Greg Fuller	11	25%	HW77	Leupold 18-40	Kodiak Match	850
Dave Frederick	8	18%	HW 97 Venom	Bushnell 6-18	FTS 8.66	935

Target Size 0.92" (0.375 - 1.57") Wind Conditions 2-3 mph (swirling)

Target Distance 36.6 yd (16 - 54) Temperature 95+ degrees F

Target Hits 44.3% (17 - 83%)

Difficulty Factor (Troyer) 45.9 (30 - 62)

CARS

CALIFORNIA ACCURATE RIFLE SHOOTERS

December 27, 2003 Field Target Match

The day started out with temperatures in the high 30's and low 40's, and by the end of the match it was about 50 degrees. The change in air density and the effects of low temperature on spring gun mechanics created real problems for sighting the guns and maintaining a consistent point of impact. Of course, the infamous Prado wind factor also contributed to a mild state of havoc, especially for the longer shots. This month I indicated the actual distance for one of the targets on each lane. An analysis of the results suggested that knowing the distance of the target was not that much help. This was also confirmed at our last match when all the distances were posted.

Overall scores were substantially lower than at previous matches. Tom Olivieri was shooting superbly until the last 2 lanes; however, he still had a most impressive 28 ex 40 (70%) for the day's highest score. Leo Hwong was using his trusty TX200, and shot a 17 (43%), which is a most respectable score on a tough course with climatic conditions that were quite problematic. Special mention should be made of one of our regular shooters, Phil Lindberg, who brought his nephew Tim for his first CARS event. Results are shown in the table below.

We tried a 12 shot air pistol match after the regular rifle field target event. Five people participated in this side shoot. Most were using match pistols with open sights, and all decided to shoot the targets from the off-hand position. Six targets with hit zones from 1" to 1.5" were placed at distances of 10 to 17 yards. Whether it was fatigue, frustration or difficulty, most of the 12 shots were misses, with 3 people managing to get 2 hits. We're not giving up just yet....

<u>Place</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Muzzle Pellet</u>	<u>Velocity (fps)</u>	
1 Tom Olivieri	28/40	70%	FWB P70 HP	Bushnell 8-32	Premier 10.5	855
2 Mike Marcelli	22	55%	Daystate Mk3 FT	Tasco CS 8-40	JSB 10.2	880
3 Bob Winer	21	53%	Steyr ZM LG100	Bushnell 8-32	Premier 10.5	900
4 John Spencer	20	50%	Anschutz ZM2002	Burriss 8-32	Premier 10.5	885
Dave Frederick	19	48%	XS-B50	Tasco 5-20	Premier 10.5	870
Leo Hwong*	17	43%	TX200	Bushnell 8-32	JSB 8.4	890
Tim Lindberg**	15	38%	AA S300	B&L 6-24	Premier .22	790
Vince Pacheco*	13	33%	TX200 MkI	Burriss 8-32	Lazadome	810
Phil Lindberg**	11	28%	AA S300	B&L 6-24	Premier .22	790

<u>Target Size</u>	0.82" (0.375 - 1.57")	<u>Wind Conditions</u>	5 mph (switching)
<u>Target Distance</u>	37.0 yd (18 - 51 yd)	<u>Temperature</u>	42 degrees F
<u>Target Hits</u>	46.0% (17-83%)		
<u>Difficulty Factor (Troyer)</u>	47.9 (35 - 60)		

* Piston gun

** Used a bipod

Steve Hanson's new book, Airgun Odyssey, is a great addition to any air gun lover's library. Steve is a Tacoma-based gun writer. The depth and breadth of the information in his new book is a good indication of the passion Steve has for airguns. The only aspect of the sport that Steve does not touch on is the precision ten-meter game. In addition to Steve's writing, there are also one chapter apiece from guest-authors Ken Reeves and Larry (Id) Durham.

The book is profusely illustrated with photographs, diagrams and the occasional cartoon. Most of the photos are also Steve's handiwork, but if Steve himself appears in the photo, it will most often have Steve's son Alan's name in the credit. Steve's got Alan working on a good start to his own journalism career!

Chapter 1 is an overview of the history of air guns and their development. In addition to writing about the development of the guns themselves, Steve also gives an overview of the sport of air gunning in this country.

Chapter 2 is an in-depth look at the various types of propulsion system available in today's marketplace. Spring-piston guns are covered, along with pneumatic and precharged-pneumatic guns of course, but the chapter also covers less well-known systems such as the air cartridge and the air capsule.

Chapter 3 delves into the world of pellets, testing and ballistics. Included in the pellet section is an interesting piece about the development of the Crosman Premier pellet.

Chapter 4 is all about hunting, varmint and pest control with airguns. Steve's experience and passion are clearly visible in this chapter. The airgun quarry discussed in this section ranges from grasshoppers to raccoons and marmots.

Chapter 5 is where I first turned when I received the book: American Field Target. A general overview of the sport is presented, along with information about scopes and popular field target guns. Steve queried a group of top field target shooters as to their primary equipment, and backup equipment. He also asked them what they believed to be the biggest challenge in the sport, and how they would rank such things as equipment, technique, practice and any other factors in determining the success of a shooter. The answers given are extremely interesting and are probably worth the price of the book in and of themselves. The AAFTA rules are included and the whole chapter is full of photographs including many taken at the 2000 World/ US National Championships. That match is particularly near and dear to me because of all the effort myself and others in our club expended in preparation for hosting the match.

Chapter 6 is an introduction to BR4000, which is the latest iteration of BR-50/BRV.

Chapters 7 and 8 are extensive tests of a bunch of airguns. Chapter 7 covers current production guns, while Chapter 8 cover some old favorites that are out of production. Steve's testing methodology is as detailed and objective as I've ever seen. My only negative reaction to this testing procedure was the fact that springers were accuracy tested using the same rigid rest that was used for the recoilless guns. It is common knowledge that recoiling spring guns rarely exhibit their best accuracy from a rest. My doubts were eliminated a month or so later when I received an addendum to the book. This section that was inadvertently left out of the book described how Steve employed special high-speed video cameras to document each guns firing behavior when shot from a rigid rest. This information was then analyzed to determine the optimum mounting position for that particular gun. These are test reports that can actually be relied upon – not inflated manufacturers results or Airgun Digest type tests.

Chapter 9 is Ken Reeves' contribution to the book and outlines his philosophy and methods of tuning spring-piston airguns.

The final chapter, written by Larry Durham, is an in-depth description of his creation of an American-designed and constructed air rifle especially for the sport of field target. The chapter follows the entire process from ideas in Id's head to the National Championship-winning rifle in Steve Schulz's hands. Id's design is currently in production as the US-FT by Mac1 Airguns.

The book has two appendices: on a very complete listing of periodicals, supplies and services; the other a listing of State sources for hunting information and regulations.

I enjoyed the book a lot - I've already recommended it to some people looking to get started in air gunning, and I think you'll like it too.

The book retails for \$33.95 in hardcover and \$28.95 in soft cover, but is available for less at the publisher's website.

Airgun Odyssey is available from:

Precision Shooting, Inc.
222 McKee Street
Manchester, CT 06040
www.precisionshooting.com

CASA

FIELD TARGET AT THE ANGELES RANGES: NOVEMBER 2003

This may have been the most perfect day for a match in recent memory. For once the winds were kind. Even the afternoon breezes were mild. A brief moment of silence was held in memory of Robert Mijares. Joe Haddad has been in truly evil humor for the past several months. His courses really are a wringer and yet the practice is great for those who travel to the regional field target events. Bob Winer was in exceptional form today in spite of his physical infirmities. Leo Hwong was as deadly with that Log of a TX he packs. I did offer him fifty bucks but he politely declined. Doug Miller was able to outlast John Spencer in a shoot off. Richard Shimizu President

SPRING CLASS

41	Leo Hwong	TX200	Bushnell 8-32	Crosman 7.9
34	Joe Salamanca	Venom HW77	Bushnell 8-32	Lazadome
33	Ron Jobbes	TX200 SR	Tasco 5-20	JSB
33	Joe Haddad	Venom HW97	B & L 2400	Crosman 7.9
30	Dave Fredrick	Venom HW97	Simmons 6-20	FTS
26	Mike Wann	Venom HW97	Bushnell 6-18	Crosman 7.9
22	Rich Shimizu	Marksman 61	Leupold 18-40	Crosman 7.9

OPEN CLASS

49	Bob Winer	Steyr ZMLG 100	Bushnell 8-32	Crosman 10.5
45	Doug Miller	Steyr		
45	John Spencer	Anschutz 2002	Burriss 8-32	Crosman 10.5
43	Tim Mc Murray	USFT PROTO	Hakko 10-50	JSB 10.2
42	Lawrence Weisdorn	ZMLG	BSA 10-50	ACCUPELL
41	Tom Olivieri	P70 FT		Crosman 10.5
41	Vipha Miller	P70 FT		
39	Daniel Moscaritolo ?			
36	Ron Marco	Mako	Bushnell 8-32	Crosman 10.5
30	Larry Durham	SS LD	Hakko 12-50	JSB 10.2
00	Michael Marcelli	Rail gun	Leupold 24	6mm BR

Some people have too many toys. Wish I was one of them. Richard Shimizu.

CASA

Field Target Match December 13

Open Class

Doug Miller	31/32	Steyr LG-100DM	Nikko	Premier 10.5
Tim McMurray	29/32	Steyr	Hakko 8-34x	JSB 10.2
Tom Olivieri	27/32	FWB P70 FT	Nikko 10-50x	Premier 10.5
Ron Marcie Jr.	26/32	Mako	Bushnell 8-32x	Premier 10.5
Larry Durham	24/32	SSLD #1	Hakko 10-50x	JSB 10.2
Kevin Hasegawa	24/32	LG100ZM	Bushnell 8-32x	Premier 10.5
Jennifer Valadez	22/32	Mako	B&L 6-24x	Kodiak Match
Vince Pacheco	22/32	Steyr LG-IPLD	Storey 36x	Premier 10.5
Ron Marcie Sr.	13/32	Excaliber	Bushnell 8-32x	FTS

Spring Piston Class

Leo Hwong	27/32	TX200	Bushnell 8-32x	JSB Exact
Rob Wild	26/32	TX200	Bushnell 8-32x	FTS
Dave Frederick	22/32	HW97	Simmons 6-20x	FTS
Peter Maxfield	18/32	R-11	Bushnell 6-18x	FTS
Ron Jobbes	16/32	Pro Sport	Tasco 8-20x	JSB
Ed Curry	14/32	TX200	B&L 6-24x	FTS
Richard Shimizu	7/32	Marksman 61	Leupold 18-40x	JSB
Marco Valadez	6/32	HW-97	B&L 6-24x	Premier 7.9

December 13 was the day of the annual Christmas Party/Swap Meet/Field Target Match/Potluck. As always, the event attracted more members than our usual Saturday-at-Prado match. Ron Marco also brought his father, Ron Marcie, Sr., to introduce him to the game. Ron Sr. was welcomed with the usual CASA hospitality but I hope to see him back in spite of that.

There wasn't much commerce this year. (Nobody bought my extra firearm scope, to my wife's disappointment.) On the other hand, I thought the food was especially good. Many thanks to all who contributed. And my thanks in particular to whoever brought the Chile Verde.

As for the shooting, Doug Miller was the man of the hour. He hit his first 31 shots and would have cleaned the course had he not missed the last shot of the match. Tim McMurray finished second in the open class but, more importantly, won this round of his on-going personal competition with Larry Durham.

Leo Hwong must have gotten bored with winning the open class every month because for the last several months he's been winning the spring class instead. This month was no exception, although Rob Wild gave him a run for his money.

We'll be doing it all again in 2004 and I hope to see you all out there!

CASA

DECEMBER 28TH FIELD TARGET AT THE ANGELES RANGES

It was a beautiful if cool winter day at the final match of the season. Seems like everyone had their newest toys out for a test drive. Doug Miller is looking dangerous these days. Between Doug and Leo the rest of us may as well stay home. Wind conditions were a bit troubling and the cold for California weather (mid-fifties low-sixties) seemed to cause a bit of zero shift as temperatures rose. The field of eighteen shooters settled in for Joe Haddad's usual bag of tricks. The full sized kill zones had to have been some sort of optical illusion. We welded them up years ago or so I thought. As a belated Christmas present this month's event was free. This was appreciated by all except club treasurer Ed Curry. Hey how was I to know he'd show up way out here and on a Sunday no less. Michael Marcelli had the latest electronic Daystate. Something about it only firing between heartbeats. Things are way too technical for this peasant.

Want to feel real ancient? Last month it was seeing MarvinTannehill's daughter as a college student. Wasn't she catching frogs at the range not that long ago? Today I saw this buff LAPD type watching the group when one of the last functioning synapses told me "Wait I know that guy" it was James Burciaga. James used to weigh about eighty pounds soaking wet. He looks like the incredible hulk now. On a more serious note US Army Ranger Burciaga reupped to stay with his unit during the current difficulties in Iraq. He is being deployed to Iraq and we wish him the best. Rich Shimizu

OPEN CLASS 52 SHOT COURSE

49	Doug Miller	Steyr LG100	Leupold 40X	Crosman 10.5
48	Leo Hwong	CRX St	Bushnell 8-32	Crosman 10.5
47	Danny Moscaritolo	ZM LG100	Leupold Comp	Crosman 10.5
45	Ron Marco	Air Arms S400	Bushnell 8-32	Kodiak 10.6
45	Tom Olivieri	P70		
45	Dave Fredrick	XS-B50	Tasco 5-20	Crosman 10.5
44	Vipha Miller	Steyr LG100DM	Leupold 35X	Crosman 10.5
41	Tim McMurray	Steyr 1PFT	Hakko 8-34	JSB 10.2
41	James Burciaga	Steyr 1PFT	Hakko 8-32	JSB 10.2
40	Mike Marcelli	Daystate MK3	Tasco 8-40	JSB 10.2
40	Kevin Hasegawa	ZMLG 100	B&L 8-32	Crosman 10.5
40	Brent Bennett	Falcon	Bushnell 6-18	

SPRING GUN CLASS

41	Joe Haddad	Venom HW97	B&L 6-24	Crosman 7.9
34	Ron Jobbes	TX SR	Tasco 5-20	JSB
32	Ed Curry	TX200	B&L 6-24	FTS
25	Joe Salamanca	Venom HW77	Elite 8-32	LAZADOME
15	Dino Christopoulos	HW77	Bushnell 6-9	Kodiak
13	Richard Shimizu	Marksman 61	Leupold 18-40	Crosman 7.9

In closing I would like to complement both Joe Haddad and Ed Curry on their excellent showing in the spring class. Ed posted what may be a personal best while escorting new field target shooter Dino Christopoulos on his first match Rich Shimizu

2004 TAMPA BAY FIELD TARGET SUPERBOWL MATCH

NAME	ST	GUN	SCOPE	PELLET	SAT-SUN-TOT x50 x48 x98	Place	%
PISTON DIV.							
Rod Bradley	AL	JW50 & JW70	B&L 6-24	JSB	41 38 79 **	3	81%
Ken Hughes	GA	TX200	Swift 8-32	JSB	34 37 71	5	72%
Angie Liles		TX200	B&L 8-32	JSB	26 11 37		38%
Bill Liles		TX200	B&L 8-32	CPL	43 31 74	4	76%
Dick Otten		JW70	Hakko 10-50	JSB	28 -- -- --		
Cliff Smith		TX200	B&L 6-24	DS/JSB	43 40 83	1	85%
Roz Sumpter	TN	TX200SR	B&L 6-24	JSB	41 38 79 **	2	81%
Brian Tomeko		Mksman72	Tech Force	20 cal	11 11 22		23%
Brad Troyer	AL	HW97	B&L 6-24		45 -- -- --		
Ron Zeman		TX200SR	Burriss 8-32		26 -- -- --		

PRECHARGED DIV.

Kevin Allen	GA	SteyrLG100ZM	Leup. Comp		35 49 43 92 **	4	94%
Mel Bomke		Titan/Anchutz	BSA 10-50		47 46 93	2	95%
Rodney Boyce		Harrier/Boyce	B&L 6-24	dnf/	23 38 61		62%
Jill Clelland	PA	FWB P70jr	BSA 10-50	Kod M	48 39 87		89%
Mike Cooper		Mako	TascoCS 10-50		28 21 49		50%
Robert Crocker	SC	DaystateMKIII	Leup. Comp		35 47 42 89 **	6	91%
Jackie Damien	TN	FWB P70	Bushnell 8-32	42	45 42 87		89%
Ed Escue		Daystate CR94	Leup 18-40		34 36 70		71%
Greg Garner	GA	Daystate CRX	NikkoSt 10-50	Kod M	42 42 84		86%
George Hamilton		Daystate CRX	Optima 10-50		40 42 82		84%
Bill Isaac	Daystate	CR97	Burriss 8-32	42 43 85	87%		
Thomas Jones	MD	AA Pro Target	NikkoSt 10-50		33 43 76		78%
Doug Miller	CA	SteyrLG100DM	Leup 35		43 46 89 **	5	91%
Vipha Miller	CA	SteyrLG100DM	Leup 40x		29 28 57		58%
Guy Omictin	VA	FWB P70jr	NikkoSt 10-50		47 47 94	1	96%
Walt Roller	GA	AA Pro Target	Burriss 8-32		45 -- -- --		
Juan Saa		AirForce Talon	Bushnell 6-24		20 24 44		45%
David Slade	CA F	WB P70	Bushnell 6-24		43 43 86		88%
Wade Sutherland	MS	LD SS #3	Hakko 8-40		46 46 92 **	3	94%
Rick Thompson	TN	WalDomLG300	NikkoSt 10-50	Kod	41 36 77		79%
Debra Troyer	AL	Falcon FN19	B&L 6-24	JSB	26 -- -- --		
Don Vandewerker		Daystate CRX	NF 36		dnf -- -- --		
Werner Wicha	VA	RN10TI 12 fpe	Tasco 12-60	JSB	39 32 71		72%
Bob Winer	CA	SteyrLG100ZM	Bushnell 8-32		44 44 88		90%

** Ties decided by 4 tie breaker lanes

Crosman premier pellets except as noted.

2004 TAMPA BAY FIELD TARGET SUPERBOWL MATCH

On the last weekend of January the brawny well paid lads with bulging muscles encased in hard plastic ended the pro football season with little help from a halftime effort of second rate glitz and first rate folly.

At the same time the Tampa Bay and Pelitcan Airgunners hosted the 2004 FT Superbowl to open the season of accuracy shooting with much significance.

For openers, the level of competitors was topnotch and included shooters who have garnered eleven National Championships. The Saturday course of fire was 50 shots in Dade City, match directed by Don Vanderwerker and 48 on Sunday in Tampa wih Cliff Smith as match director.

Saturday was a cold drizzly miserable day but didn't seem to faze the hot shots. Kevin Allen sizzled with near impeccable accuracy and dropped only one shot to lead the air tanker pack. Close at his heels was Jill Cleland down only two (Wow!) followed by Guy Omictin, Mel Bomke, Robert Crocker with three down and Wade Sutherland with one more.

On Sunday, lovely weather brought on the seesaw syndrome that shuffled the standings. Guy Omictin calmly won the Precharge Class by limiting his second day misses to a mere one for a 94 total. Mel Bomke regained his old form with his Mickey Mouse/Rube Goldberg contraption and was one point behind Guy with a 93. Kevin Allen followed with a 92. It don't get no closer than that.

The pistoneros' competition was a different matter. Brad Troyer shot a 45 on Saturday followed by Cliff Smith and Bill Liles with 43's and Rod Bradley and Roz Sumpter with 41's. On Sunday, however, Cliff Smith , despite Match Directing chores, decisively won the Piston Gun Class with 83 points. Rod Bradley and Roz Sumpter followed with 79's. Brad Troyer's lead on the first day was for naught as he had other commitments on Sunday.

I had the good fortune on Sunday to be squaded with Guy Omictin who is not only a super shooter but a thorough gentleman and most supportive. He's quite an asset to our sport. The course layouts can be described by the old adage that the targets were not hard to hit but easy to miss. The cold wetness and mystery winds served to spice up the affair while Don Vanderwerker's outrageously creative targets added a comforting risible touch. Don also made nifty trophies to reward the sharpshooters.

The 2004 Field Target Superbowl definitely established this annual event to be the Regional/National Field Target kickoff for the year. -----Rodney Boyce

Florida Super Bowl 2004

A shooters perspective

By Bill Liles.

The Florida Super Bowl event is one match I look forward to over all others because it has become a Nationally recognized event attracting shooters from all parts of the country. In short, it's an opportunity for a local boy to run with the "Big Dogs".

When my wife and I arrived at the first day's venue in Dade City, the first thing I noticed was how much colder it was than where we drove up from (about 15 degrees cooler) which in itself did not scare me any as I was wearing my "No Fear" long sleeve t-shirt and felt it was adequate enough for me to compete. I felt good on the sight-in line so I was confident going into the first lane that I might actually knock down some targets.

I was squadded with Werner Wicha and Greg Garner who are both great guys and great shots. And low and behold just as the match director yells "Hot Line" it starts to sprinkle rain and that's when my long sleeve becomes shall we say insufficient. It did not rain hard but it did rain steady and by the third lane I was shaking from the chill. I had no rain gear but fortunately Greg loaned me his rain jacket to cover my gun between shots and a polar fleece jacket to wear while shooting. I owe Greg my Good score for that day for sure and extend my heart felt thanks. Don Vandewerker always sets up an amusing and challenging course without being overly difficult for a spring gun shooter and this course was very entertaining. From the 2 gun Yosemite Sam target to my personal favorite Tweety in a cage target which I actually hit 2 for 2 for the first time ever. The course was lots of fun even though I could almost hear the rust growing on my gun from the light but steady rain, but surprisingly there was very little wind.

Day 2 was a completely different story. It was indeed a dry morning but the wind was easily a steady 10 mph. I showed up early to help setup and was feeling the effects of staying up till 2am getting mine and my wife's guns dried out. I started to feel a little better when I learned Brad Troyer was unable to attend the 2nd day (nothing personal) bumping me up to be tied for first with Cliff Smith. I was squadded with Dave Slade and Roz Sumpter, both well known shooters and both gifted shooters for sure. A fact that did make me a little nervous at first because, hey man, these guys are famous!

I got thru the first two lanes well enough but the fatigue from being up half the night started to take it's toll on my shooting. I couldn't feel the trigger or hold the gun still enough to make the grade so, like pee wees in a bic pen, my score card plummeted from being tied for 1st to finishing 4th in the Spring gun division.

The courses were fantastic and I'm proud to be affiliated with Pelitcan Airgunners and Tampabay Airgunners. Don & Cliff go all out for this event and the people that come from all over bear witness to that. It's an event that I look forward to every year and can't wait till next year when the "Big Dogs" return to Tampa Bay.

"Good Shot"

Bill Liles

A Good Ole Boy's view of the SuperBowl match.
by Roz Sumpter

The 2004 Florida SuperBowl match was a tale of two cities and two different weather conditions. On the first match day of Saturday, Jan 31, hosted by the Pelletcan Airgun Club in Dade City, the weather forecast was ominous and proved accurate. It began to sprinkle raindrops as soon as the match began. It continued to do so, with gradual increasing volume, throughout the day. Fortunately though, we never received a deluge forceful enough to suspend the contest.

Considering the inclement conditions, which had several shooters shivering from a combination of cool temperatures and wet clothing, the overall performance of the competitors was very good and several nearly cleaned the course. Two notables were Kevin Allen and Jill Clelland: Kevin finishing the first day dropping only one shot, and Jill allowing only two to escape. It was still raining when the day's shooting was done and we all headed for a dry, warm environment containing hot food.

Sunday's leg of the match was hosted by the Tampa Bay Airgun Club in Tampa. By contrast, the match started under overcast but dry conditions, and warmer than the previous day. This definitely added to our comfort quotient, but a very tricky ongoing breeze negated the potential for some of us to improve our scores over the previous day's. However, it is no secret that adversity brings out the best in the best.

On this second match day it was Guy Omictin who dropped only one shot to capture first place in PCP. Cliff Smith had dropped seven on Saturday and missed eight on Sunday to win in Piston Division. Congratulation to both for well earned victories.

It should be noted that Brad Troyer was leading in Piston Division at the end of Saturday's match. He was up by two shots on his nearest competitor. As fate would have it, his fiance Debra , traveling with Brad and herself a competitor, became ill that night and neither was able to attend on Sunday. A similar circumstance prevented Dick Otten and Ron Zeman from attending Sunday's finale. – A reminder that we all have to play the hand dealt us!

So:

-Guy Omictin is now running with the big dogs!

-Cliff Smith is ecstatic that his streak of winless matches is over!

-You and I are elated that the first major match of 2004 has officially kicked off another year of Field Target!

Yes Virginia, all is right with the universe and, there truly is a Santa Claus!!

Your stuff here!

Contributions to this newsletter are gratefully accepted and strongly encouraged!!!!

WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

AIGGUN NEWSLETTER

Jim Everett
January 19, 2004

As I write these words, the first match of the season is behind us. We had about 10 people show up. Considering the conditions, 9 or 10 hardy shooters was a good turn out. I wasn't able to make it but I have spoken with Ken Reeves, Rick Stoutenburg and Dan Delproposto to get a bit of information for the newsletter.

Despite the new wall at the back of the airgun range, Mother Nature arranged to have a wind out of the north-northeast blowing into the faces our intrepid ten. Temps were in the mid teens to low 20's with a good deal of sunshine reflecting off the snow field. I didn't hear of anyone going snow-blind though I suppose that would have been a risk if they had stayed out long enough! Rick Stoutenburg and Fritz Sanders brought their kerosene heaters. This gave the shooters a chance to warm up between shots.

It was really too cold for a match but spinners, field targets, paper and a bank of silhouettes were put out. Steve Sibal placed the silhouettes at 20 yards. The guys brought out match rifles, field target rifles and different pistols to try out. Evidently there is a desire to be able to shoot the All Event matches in June and August with some degree of proficiency.

I am told Steve Sibal had a muzzle brake actually being blown off his rifle (I don't know what rifle) as he took a shot. The brake had been press fitted to the barrel. The cold had caused the metal of the brake and barrel to contract and off came the break when the rifle was fired. I'll bet that was a sobering moment for Steve!!

Here is an excerpt from Ken Reeves e-mail to me today:

“As I arrived at the WWCCA's airgun range, I noticed a number of airgunners setting up for the shooting games. With almost a foot of snow on the ground and temps in the mid to upper 20's everyone was bundled up for the chill the cold breeze was developing. Many were so well covered I hardly recognized some. For those that attended the US Nationals you saw how well protected from the wind the airgun range is but on this particular day the wind was finding its way through the nooks and crannies of the walls. In fact, the temp continued to drop and the wind got stronger as the day progressed. After a short practice and warm up session we noticed our numbers began to dwindle as the wind chill got the better of many of our shooters! I am sure some will need to better prepare for shooting in the cold with an update in their winter shooting attire. Those leaving early did indicate they would be back in February to try again.

With the few remaining, we decided not to hold any sort of organized match, just enjoy the day shooting and shooting the breeze. With a portable heater in the office we were able to step back and warm our trigger fingers for a bit and then venture out for a bit more plinking. Good company and good airgun conversation was enjoyed and it turned out to be a successful day despite the weather!!

Dig out the “winter woolies” and join us in February for another round of pre-season warm up at the WWCCA Airgun Range. Ken Reeves”

Those whose names I have that came to the match were Rick Stoutenburg, Fritz Sanders, Ken Reeves, Steve Sibal, Dan Delproposto, Bill Dodt, Gary Moore and a club member with his 12 year old son. Maybe we'll get him and the boy to come back out again.

I have attached a photo showing part of the airgun range and a shooter who is so bundled up against the cold that I cannot say exactly who he is!!

The next scheduled match is February 15th. I hope to be there and I hope to see many of you out there with me!

AAFTA Associate Member Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Club Affiliation: _____ Field Target Shooter: _____ Other: _____

Make Check payable to:

AAFTA

Mail to:
AAFTA c/o
Cliff Smith
8725 Osage Dr.
Tampa, FL 33634

Associate Membership Rates for 12 Months: \$25 United States \$30 Canada/Mexico \$40 Overseas Airmail

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AAFTA News
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