



# THE AAFTA NEWS

The Official American Airgun Field Target Association Newsletter  
Published from a spider hole deep in the bowels of a non descript concrete bunker...

Volume 18 Issue 1

January/February Issue



## Special Points of Interest

- Miller and Rushton win Superbowl
- Billy Lo wins Blue Ball of Fame
- Review of Crosman's New PCP
- Winter is COLD for most of us
- Update on S&B FT Scope
- Match Reports from around the US
- **DON'T FORGET YOUR DUES!**

## Doug Miller Wins PCP Div at Superbowl Harold Rushton Wins Piston Division!



TEAM FROG SAC WINS AGAIN!

Well winter is almost over and we'll all soon be into another fun year of field target shooting without our parkas. We're off to a good start with a very active January and February. More clubs than ever and more shoots to attend. FT is alive and well in the USA.

Some big news in this issue is Crosman's introduction of their new rifle, the Discovery which looks very promising as an entry level PCP field target rifle. Lets keep our fingers crossed as it would be great to have another American made field target rifle on the scene.

Please keep the reports coming in to my email address. Reports posted on the internet will not be cut and pasted into the newsletter without permission. By sending me your reports or a link to your report you are giving us permission to print it. Hope you all understand.

This newsletter is what WE make of it. Email your comments, suggestions, reports, ideas, complaints, articles, feedback etc to me at medbill@hvc.rr.com. For advertising please contact the Treasurer. Please don't forget to pay your club or associate member dues if they are due. Don't forget the email associate membership is only 10 bucks! Thank you and enjoy the Newsletter!

*Billy Lo*

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*Cover photos: Happy award winners at the 2008 Superbowl Match in Florida.  
Second photo lower left, blue ball of fame and Team Frog Sac's BIG frog sac to be worn by most match winning member of the team in 2007, Paul Cray.*

*Please email your news, reports, comments, questions, photos, etc to Editor Billy Lo at medbill@hvc.rr.com*

*Please send your dues ad's and advertising fee's to Secretary/treasurer Joe McDaniel at address listed above, left.*

# AAFTA Member Clubs

AA	Airgunning Atlanta, Atlanta Ga Ken Hughes 770-445-0789 Mbmedic@techie.com www.airgunningatlanta.com	MSTS	Mid South Tri-State Airgunners Association Memphis, TN Tom Iiterly 901-872-0488
BAC	Bayou Airgun Club; Baton Rouge, La Jack Kirkendoll 225-755-1715	MSFTA	Moutain State FT Association St. Albans, WV Rick McAllister 304-549-5409 rick.mcallister@att.net
BAGA	Badgerland Air Gun Association; Bristol, WI Alex Modic 262-895-7251 alex@bagaclub.com www.bagaclub.com	NGA	North Georgia Airgunners; Jefferson, GA Greg Garner 706-367-1371 sponger64g@excite.com
BGAC	Bluegrass Airgun Club; Lexington, KY Steve Cox 859-263-8378 coxclark@email.msn.com	NMAC	Northern Mississippi Airgun Club; Hernando, MS Stylie Edwards 901-603-7107
BRF&G	Black Rock Fish & Game; Crawford, NY Billy Lo 845-492-1023 medbill@hvc.rr.com http://blackrockfishandgame.cogia.net/	NOCASA	Northern California Airgun Shooters Association San Francisco, CA Mike McKeown 707-253-8029
CARS	California Accurate Rifle Shooters; Long Beach, CA Bob Winer 562-430-9185 rlwiner@yahoo.com	OFTC	Ozark Field Target Club; Berryville, AR Don Matzeder 870-423-4688 matzeder@direcpc.com
CASA	California Airgun Shooters Association; Los Angeles, CA Richard Shimizu 562-427-1403	PRFTA	Puerto Rico FT Association 787-396-2252
CCRP	Capitol City Rifle & Pistol; Lacey, WA John Mickel 360-491-0714 jmickel@mail.tss.net	TBA	Tampa Bay Airgunners; Odessa, FL Cliff Smith 813-884-0507
CTAC	Central Texas Airgun Club; Dripping Springs, TX Leo Duran 512-288-9647 leo_duran@yahoo.com	TRRFTC	Tacoma Rifle & Revolver FT Club Tacoma, WA Jim Benson alf911@comcast.net
DIFTA	Damascus Maryland Chapter of the Issak Walton League of America Joe McDaniels mcdanieljr@hughes.net  Tim Berlett teber@earthlink.net	TVA	Tennessee Valley Airgunners; Huntsville, AL Brad Troyer 256-882-2811
DJMC	Delran Junior Marksman; Delran, NJ John Quiter 732-269-3303	WFTC	Woodland FT Club; Woodland, WA Craig Taylor dibzter@aol.com
DSA	Desoto Airgunners; Arcadia, FL Ron Zeman 941-613-1955 DeSotoairgunners@earthlink.net	WLOPA	Wolcott Landowners Protective Association; Wolcott, FT David Day davidlday@yahoo.com
EFTCC	Eastern FT Competitor's Club; Wappingers Falls, NY Ray Apelles 845-896-9792 www.bestweb.net/~ateamray	WSC	Westfield Sportsman's Club; Westfield, MA Joe Dennis wsc.field_target@cox.net http://members.cox.net.wsc.field_target/index.html
FTR&PA	Falls Township Rifle & Pistol Association Dave Carpenter 215-736-9992	WWCCA	Western Wayne County Conservation Association; Plymouth, MI Dan DelProposto 734-459-4685 delproposto@ameritech.net www.wwcca.com/clubs.air_gun.htm
GOB	Good Ole Boy's Airgun Club; Pulaski, TN Roz Sumpter 931-424-5314	YAGC	Yegua Air Gun Club; Somerville, TX Scott York 979-596-2404
IAFTC	Idaho Airgun Field Target Club; Pocatello, ID George Gardner 208-522-3825 home srolmo@cableone.net	<b>Associate Member Clubs</b>	
KTXAC	Kermit Texas Airgun Club; Kermit, TX Robert Fischer 432-586-9214 txairgunner@gmail.com	AOA	Airgunners of Arizona; Mesa, AZ Robert Buchanan 480-461-1113
MAFTA	Minnesota Airgun FT Association Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN Jay Olson-Goude@msn.com http://mafta.homestead.com	ARFTRCC	Air Rifle Field Target Riley Conservation Club; Terra Haute, IN Robert Hargis Jr. 812-466-7306
MCFG	Marion County Fish & Game Association Indianapolis, IN Anthony Storey 317-925-5544	DAFTC	Dominion Airgun Field Target Club; Harrisburg, VA Harrisonburg, VA Frank Turner 540-271-2202
		OASA	Ohio Airgun Shooters Association; Mansfield, OH Bruce Perathaner 419-756-7813
		WFTA	Waterloo Field Target Association Waterloo, Ontario, Canada Hans Bormann 519-745-3244
		CMPT	Club Mexico De Tiro Pneumatico S. de RLYCV; Mexico Hector J. Medina Hacienda De La Punta 129 Bosques De Echegaray Naucalpa Edo. De Mexico 53310  Carlo Camillo di Rudio Italy Simon Ciucchi simone@tirowestern.it

# 2008 Match Schedule

## January

06 - WSC Ma  
 12 - AOA Az  
 20 - DSA Fl, CTAC TX,  
 YAGC TX  
 27 - EFTCC Offhand NY

## May

03 - DIFTA Md  
 04 - NOCASA Ca, EFTCC NY  
 10 - PCFTC Port Colborne On-  
 tario Canada, BCSA NY,  
 CASA, Ca  
 17 - IAFTC Id, TVA Tn  
 18 - DSA Golf Scoring FT Fl,  
 WSC Ma, CTAC Tx, YAGC  
 Tx, WWCCA Mi  
 25 - WLOPA Ct, CASA Ca

## September

06 - PCFTC Port Colborne On-  
 tario Canada  
 07 - WSC Ma  
 13 - CASA Ca, **13-14 BGAC  
 2008 AAFTA Nationals  
 Ky**  
 14 - Haverhill Ma  
 20 - TVA Tn, DIFTA Md,  
**IAFTC State Champion-  
 ships Id**  
 21 - NOCASA Ca, CTAC Tx,  
 YAGC Tx, WLOPA Ct,  
 DSA Fl, WWCCA Mi  
 27 - BCSA Ny

## February

02 - WLOPA Blue Balls VI  
 CT, **2-3 Superbowl 2008  
 FL,**  
 17 - WSC Ma, CTAC TX,  
 YAGC TX

## June

07 - CASA Ca  
 08 - WSC Ma  
 14 - PCFTC Port Colborne On-  
 tario Canada, BCSA NY  
**14-15 Good Ole Boys Tn**  
 15 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx, N  
 CASA Ca, Haverhill Ma  
 21 - DIFTA Md, IAFTC Offsite Id  
 22 - WLOPA Ct, WWCCA Mi,  
 CASA Ca

## October

04 - PCFTC Port Colborne On-  
 tario Canada, DIFTA Fun  
 Match Md  
 05 - Haverhill Ma  
 11 - CASA Ca  
 12 - WLOPA Ct  
 18 - DIFTA Md, TVA Tn, IAFTC  
 offsite Id  
 19 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx, NO-  
 CASA Ca, WSC Ma,  
 WWCCA Airgun shoot Mi  
 26 - CASA Ca

## March

**01-02 YAGC Republic of Texas  
 Roundup**  
 02 - NOCASA Ca, Haverhill Ma  
 09 - WSC Ma  
 15 - IAFTC Id, TVA Tn, DSA Fl  
 16 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx,  
 WWCCA Fun Shoot Mi

## July

**12-13 PCFTC Canadian Nation  
 als Port Colborne Ontario**  
 12 - CASA Ca  
 13 - WSC Ma  
 19 - TVA Tn, IAFTC Id  
**20 - BCSA Northeast Regional  
 Championship NY, CTAC  
 Tx, YAGC Tx, NOCASA Ca,  
 Haverhill Ma, WWCCA  
 Family Fun Shoot Mi**  
**26 - DIFTA Md State Champi-  
 onship**  
 27 - CASA Ca, WLOPA Ct

## November

01 - DIFTA Md  
 02 - Haverhill Ma  
 08 - CASA Ca  
**09 - EFTCC NYS Champi-  
 onship**  
**15 - TVA Alabama State  
 Championship Tn,  
 IAFTC Id**  
 16 - NOCASA Ca, CTAC Tx,  
 YAGC, Tx, DSA FT & Sil-  
 houette Fl  
 23 - CASA Ca

## April

**05-06 Cajun Spring Classic La**  
 06 - Haverhill MA  
 12 - DIFTA Fun Match Md,  
 BCSA NY  
 13 - WLOPA Wimp Vermin CT  
 19 - DIFTA Md, IAFTC Crosman  
 match Id, TVA Tn  
 20 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx, NO  
 CASA Ca, WSC Ma,  
 WWCCA Mi

## August

03 - EFTCC Ny  
 09 - CASA Ca, BCSA NY  
**10 - WSC Ma State Champion-  
 ship**  
 16 - DIFTA Md, IAFTC Id, TVA  
 17 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx, NO-  
 CASA Ca, Haverhill Ma,  
 WWCCA Mi  
**22-24 NIFTA World Champi-  
 onships Northern Ireland**  
 24 - CASA Ca  
**29-30 WLOPA Dump Hunt and  
 FT Ct**

## December

07 - WSC Ma  
 14 - CASA Ca  
 21 - CTAC Tx, YAGC Tx  
 28 - CASA Ca

## Where To Find It

<b>FT Air Rifles</b>		Airgun Odyssey by Steve Hanson	860-645-8776
Airgun Express	800-896-4867	Airgun Hobby Magazine	864-388-7943
Airguns of Arizona	907-522-5900	<b>Regulators</b>	
Beeman Precision Airguns	480-461-1113	Joe Korick	360-576-6374
Benson Airgun Options	800-227-2744	<b>Repair &amp; Tuning</b>	
Burroughs International	253-671-0177	Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Ken's Airsports	310-457-5932	Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	931-565-4841
Mac-1 (USFT rifles)	419-837-6459	Ken's Airsports	419-837-6459
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544	Mac 1 (Crosman, Benjamin/Sheridan)	310-327-3581
Straight Shooters	320-240-9062	<b>Scope Knobs and Levels</b>	
Wade Sutherland	622-429-4663	Airgun Express	800-896-4867
W.W. Mann International	317-241-6011	Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
<b>Airgun Accessories</b>		Ken's Airsports	419-837-6459
Precision Airgun LTD.	562-430-9138	Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
<b>Ballistic Programs</b>		Long-Shot Products, Ltd. (Micro-level)	513-683-4999
Air Rifle Ballistics	813-634-6507	<b>Scope Mounts</b>	
Precision Airgun LTD.	562-430-9183	Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Eric Sanders Scope Knob & Ballistics Program		Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113
<a href="http://www.compufoil.com/download_sk.html">http://www.compufoil.com/download_sk.html</a>		Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
<b>Chronograph</b>		Mac-1 (Droopers)	310-327-3581
Airgun Express	800-896-4867	Precision Airgun Ltd. (bkl)	562-430-9183
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544	Brownells	800-741-0015
<b>Field Targets</b>		<b>Scope Wheels</b>	
Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9138	Lake Precision Machine	1pm@lakepm.com
After Hours Target Company	239-772-3588	<b>Silhouette Targets</b>	
<a href="http://fieldtargets.com/">http://fieldtargets.com/</a>		Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
Pounded Paddle Targets	603-736-7891	<b>Stocks</b>	
<a href="http://poundedpaddletargets.com/">http://poundedpaddletargets.com/</a>		Wade Sutherland	662-429-4663
<b>Gas Rams</b>		Jim Maccari	
Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	714-724-6169	<a href="http://www.airrifleheadquarters.com/">http://www.airrifleheadquarters.com/</a>	828-758-9979 or
		Mike Abernathy	828-322-9372
		EMAIL@ jmichaeltx@yahoo.com	
		Dave G Stocks	
		<a href="http://davegstocks.blogspot.com/">http://davegstocks.blogspot.com/</a>	
<b>Pellets</b>		<b>Wind Flags</b>	
Airgun Express (Crosman Premier)	900-896-4867	Direct Wind Flags/Style Edwards	901-603-7107
Airguns of Arizona	480-461-1113	<b>Airgun Videos</b>	
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744	Pellethead	800-213-2088
Mac-1	310-327-3581	<b>Awards and Trophies</b>	
<b>Publications</b>		Bob Zimmerman	713-680-1329
AAFTA News & AAFTA Club	813-884-0507	Trophies 2 Go	877-926-4700
and Shooters Handbook		<a href="http://www.trophies2go.com/">http://www.trophies2go.com/</a>	

# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

What is the latest on the Schmidt and Bender air rifle scopes? I met you at the 2007 Nationals. What is your opinion of the scope?

Bubbie Smith  
Baton Rouge La

Dear Bubbie,

*The latest scoop is they can't give a release date yet. Some inside info I can share is that there has been a recent change in the engineering personal dept at Schmidt and Bender and I wouldn't doubt that this has something to do with the delay since one of them was the engineer I had been in contact with since 2005 in regards to the development of the FT scope.*

*I think the scope is outstanding and really shines in lowlight but I still need to really run it through a season of field target and practice sessions to give it the final two thumbs up.*

The Ed

Dear Editor,

Why are equipment lists important in our match reports? Who really cares what the guys are all using? Those of us that were there know and just about everyone uses the same stuff anyway.

Signed,

Lazy at Registration

Dear Lazy,

*It is important for those that weren't there, for those looking to get into the game and most importantly for advertisers as well as manufacturers to know what is working, who is supporting them and their products and of course again WHAT WORKS!*

*Please take the extra 20 seconds to fill out the blank boxes while registering at your next match. The information does matter. Nikko Stirling was amazed at the following they had here in the US and are hard at work answering some of our requests for improvement in their winning line of scopes. Companies do pay attention to such things. The Ed*

Dear Editor,

Are the spiders as big as I hear they are in Kentucky, if so I'm a scared of going to the Nationals. I heard Mike Miller was trapped in a web for a half hour before Steve Cox and crew could cut him loose with a chain saw.

Signed,

Arachno Fieldtargetus

Dear Arachno,

*If you are really worried about spiders at the Nationals ask to get paired up with Mike. If there is a human sized web to walk into, Mike will find it and for sure walk into it for you. Not to worry about his attracting the friendly barking spiders of KY, which is only an issue at night so not to worry, unless you are camping out of course.*

*The facilities at the Nationals Host club are top notch and it is a match not to be missed. The area is beautiful and it is certainly a little slice of heaven. The hosts are gracious, the courses are beautiful, well laid out and the chow is the stuff dreams are made of. SEE YOU THERE! The ED*

Dear Readers,

**Keep the hate mail, love letters, photos, proposals, reports or questions coming in, I can hardly keep up with it all but I will try!**

PLEASE make sure you email your match reports to me because that is the only way you will see them printed in the news. Other clubs out there are dying to know how you guys are doing and who are the top competitors to beat so get those reports emailed to me at [MEDBILL@HVC.RR.COM](mailto:MEDBILL@HVC.RR.COM)

**Special thanks to Jim Chapman** for his excellent review on the Discovery in this issue!



The Ed

**Paul Cray Fundraiser!**

I am working on a fundraising drive to help offset the cost of sending our World Champion FT shooter to the big WFTF match in Ireland this year. If you and or your club is interested in helping out contact me and we'll talk. This trip will not be cheap with the falling dollar vs. the English pound! Lets help Paul Cray defend his title and come back home with the World Cup while still being able to feed his hungry kids! **GO USA!!!**

**A tip on how to make your club and interest in field target & the shooting sports grow.**

Have a meeting with the leaders of your local Boy Scouts of America! I had a chance encounter with a Scout leader while recently participating in a local blood drive. A scout was going for his Eagle badge, a very distinguished badge to earn. His project was a local blood drive and cancer awareness program. Both his parents are cancer patients. Through his efforts he helped the NY Blood bank bring in 269 pints of blood! After making my contribution of what I consider to be a very fine vintage from my personal stock I got to talking to the man handing out the brownies, my personal favorite workout food! Well we got to talking and I asked him if the Scouts would be interested in attending a field target match and he was elated and the ball is rolling. I will be dropping off some literature I have on FT, one article written by David Day and the other by Jock Elliot. They are both excellent primers for the game. It all happened just like that. If I can do it so can you. All it takes is a little time and some luck. Kids are the future of our shooting sports. In my honest opinion air rifle field target is one of the best ways to get them started.

Good luck and go get em!

# 2008 Northeast Regional Field Target Championship

**Date:** Sunday July 20th 9:00AM, practice range opens 7:00AM, competitors meeting 8:30AM  
**Site:** Broome County Sportsmen's Association, Kirkwood, NY.  
**Rules:** AAFTA rules apply.  
**Course of fire:** 2 rounds, 40 shots each, 80 shots total. 10 lanes, 2 targets per lane, 2 shots per target. Five minutes per lane.  
**Division:** PCP, Piston, and Hunter Divisions.  
**Awards:** 1<sup>st</sup> through 3<sup>rd</sup> for PCP, Piston, and Hunter  
**Entry fee:** \$20.00 per competitor, \$5.00 for juniors (age 18 and under).  
**Entry Deadline:** June 1, 2008  
**Meals:** Chicken barbeque lunch will be provided for competitors. Additional lunch meals can be ordered for \$7.00 each. Other fast food available within a short distance.

Additional information and maps to the range can be found on the web at [www.hpcutlery.com/ft.html](http://www.hpcutlery.com/ft.html) or contact Mike Sporer at 1-607-775-2346 / e-mail: [ft1@bcsportsmen.org](mailto:ft1@bcsportsmen.org)

## 2008 Northeast Regional Field Target Championship Registration Form

(please print clearly and include all information)

Name:	Phone:	
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
E-mail:	Age:	
Air Rifle:	Scope:	Pellet:

Division (circle one):      PCP                  Piston                  Hunter

- Individual Adult Registration (\$20.00)
- Individual Junior Registration (\$5.00)
- Additional lunches (\$7.00 each)

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please squad me with:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to BCSA and send entries to:

BCSA / NERFTC  
 PO Box 1794  
 Binghamton, NY 13902-1794

<b>Team Entries</b>
_____ Team Name
_____ PCP Teammate
_____ Piston Teammate
_____ Hunter Teammate
_____ Please squad as needed to complete a team

## Waterloo Field Target Club Christmas Match – Saturday December 8, 2007

We enjoyed a great day of shooting, drinking hot chocolate, eating and most importantly, socializing. For December, the weather cooperated very well. It was partly sunny, about -2° C and there were diminishing winds as the day progressed. There was a real nice coating of snow on everything outdoors, that was about 8" deep on the lanes and low areas had up to a foot of snow. We had no trouble spotting the targets.

Eight shooters took advantage of the good weather and headed to the outdoor field target course. It was a 30 shot match, set up on five lanes. There was a great variety in the difficulty ranges from lane to lane, but the average was 31 on the Troyer difficulty scale. The cold and icy shooting surfaces were not factored into the difficulty.

The top three in Piston division were James (24), Tom (21) and Zack (20). The top PCP shooters were Dennis (29), Don (28) and Chris (24). At this point, we headed indoors to shoot on the indoor range.

The indoor shooting consisted of ten shots to hit nine pieces of chalk that were rotating and coming about three quarters of an inch above a wall for a brief time and then disappear behind the wall. Good timing and a steady hold were needed. Don, Chris and Tom all managed to dust eight of the nine pieces of chalk. The scores were then added to give the results on the chart below, with shooters listed alphabetically.

Early in the afternoon, sub sandwiches were delivered by Ron Jackson, so we were either shooting on the indoor range or eating; what a great combination. Thanks for bringing the grub, Ron. George ordered lots, so I think even Chris was full by the time we were finished.

After all the shooting and eating was done, we exchanged gifts and the guys picked up a lot of great things.

The plaques for the top three shooters in Piston and PCP division for the 2007 season at Waterloo were then awarded. The top Piston shooter was George, followed by Len and then Tom. The Top PCP shooter was Don, followed by Dennis and Tim. These awards are new this year and gauging from the reaction, may become annual awards at the Waterloo and Port Colborne clubs. Great idea George.

It was gratifying for all of us to witness the presentation of the final award of the season. It was a lifetime achievement award that was given to Hans Bormann for pioneering the sport in Canada and continuing through all the years to contribute in so many ways to the sport of field target and the people involved. George did an excellent job of presenting the award and expressing gratitude from all field target shooters in Canada.

Thanks to George and all who helped to make this a fun and memorable day. I look forward to seeing everyone on the lanes in the spring of 2008. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all.

Tim MacSweyn

\* Set up an outdoor lane

Shooter	Gun	Scope	Pellet	Score /39 FT-T-Diff 31 Ft-Chk-Tot
<b>PCP Division</b>				
Dennis Eden*	Theoben MFR	Deben 10-50	CPH	29 – 4 T33
Ted Gibson	Solo	Bushnell 8-32	Baracuda	21 – 6 T27
Don Irvine*	Steyr FT	S&B 12.5-50	JSBH	28 – 8 T36
Tim MacSweyn*	HW100	Leapers 3-12	CP .22	21 – 2 T23
Chris Nicholson*	AA 400FT	Bushnell 8-32	JSB	24 – 8 T32
<b>Piston Division</b>				
George Harde*	Diana 46	Bushnell 3-9	CPL	12 – 3 T15
Zach Harde	HW97K	Hawke	CPL	20 – 6 T26
James Jackson	HW97K	Hawke	CPL	24 – 7 T31
Jordan Jackson	HW97K	Hawke	CPL	14 – 5 T19
Will Kwan	HW97K	Leapers 8-32	JSBL	17 – 7 T24
Tom Peretti	HW97K	Leapers 8-32	JSBL	21 – 8 T29
Bill Shikatani	Diana 54	Bushnell 6-24	JSB EX .22	13 – 7 T20

# Airgunners of Arizona FT match results

Wickenburg, AZ January 12, 2008

While the rest of the country is freezing their buns off, 12 intrepid shooters from Arizona braved the elements to shoot our first field target match of the season.....

OK, so it was cool in the morning, warming to about 70 degrees, with bright sunshine, and very light, high, wispy clouds. What can I say, the weather was perfect with only a slight breeze to make some pellet placement interesting.

This was the Keiser Open, with Dale and Debbie Keiser as Co-Match directors. The range location was on both sides of a wash with target placement under logs, behind bushes, through trees, and up in trees. There were 10 lanes set up with 2 to 3 targets per lane. Initially it was to be a 50 shot match, but with one target malfunction, was reduced to 48.

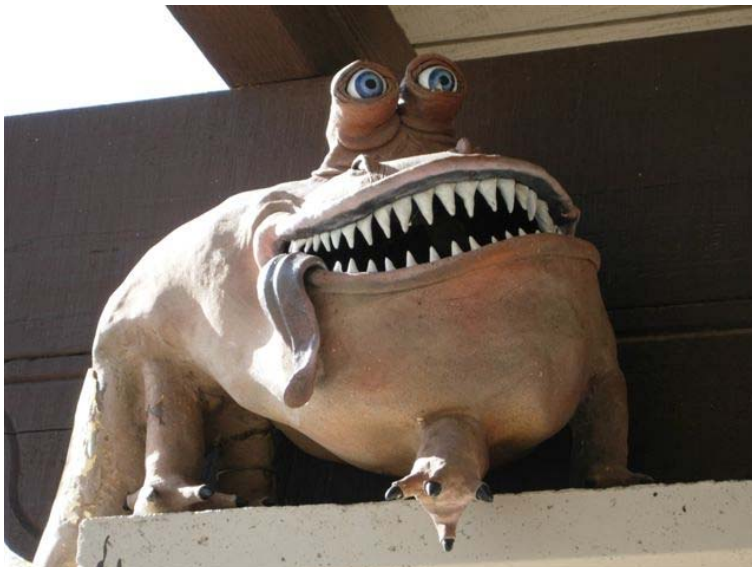
Interestingly, all shooters were shooting Precharged guns, and came from all over the state to shoot; Wickenburg, Flagstaff, Camp Verde, Phoenix, Apache Junction, Tucson, and one shooter, Greg Frostad, drove all the way from New Mexico!

Bobby Corcorran put the hurt on all of us with his blistering score to win this first match of the year. Bobby also placed 10th in the Worlds this past October in Tennessee.

1st Place.....	Bobby Corcorran.....	43 / 48
Tie 2nd.....	Dale Keiser.....	35 / 48
Tie 2nd.....	Steve Montgomery...	35 / 48
Tie 4th.....	Debbie Keiser.....	34 / 48
Tie 4th.....	Greg Frostad.....	34 / 48
6th.....	Mark Kauffman.....	30 / 48
7th.....	Klayton Kidd.....	26 / 48
8th.....	Ron Drye.....	24 / 48
9th.....	Larry Nelson.....	20 / 48
10th.....	Bonni Drye.....	18 / 48
11th.....	Robin Montgomery...	16 / 48
12th.....	John Callender.....	11 / 48

It should be noted that we had 3 husband / wife couples shooting, indicating that airgunning and field target are truly family events.

After the match, Debbie and Dale provided lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, and a really killer chili along with all the condiments and beverages. A very big THANK YOU goes out to them for running a terrific match to get the 2008 season off to a great start.



Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman  
 Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona

## **BAYOU AIRGUN CLUB MATCH RESULTS**

### **1-5-07**

We had a good turnout for our first match of the year. Prior to the match we decided to use the last Saturday of each month for a pistol fun shoot and a rifle bench rest match. This will give us a chance to try some new things out and possibly have more formal matches in the future. For the pistol part everyone is encouraged to bring a pistol if you have one; if not those who have more than one can bring them all so everyone can see what's out there. Also, please bring plastic containers for targets as well as pistol silhouette targets, or whatever else you may think would be fun and safe to shoot at. If you have benchrest rifle targets please bring some out for us to try. We can make copies for future use. Following the meeting we all shot the course. Will Thibault came out for the first time in awhile and cleaned the course. Great shooting, Will! Stay away from our big matches OK? We don't mind you winning rocks, but us lesser mortals want the good stuff!

#### PCP Class

1. Will Thibault 36
2. Walker Landry 34
3. Bubbie Smith 33 tie
4. Benny Lopoo 33 tie
5. Greg Blair 31
6. Barry Waste 29

#### Piston Class

1. Warren Landry 33
2. Tony Lightfoot 31
3. Ron Lamb 23 tie
4. Jack Kirkendoll 23 tie
5. Kevin Bresinger 18

#### HFT Class

1. Doug Singer 32
2. Ken Green 29

Our next match will be a HFT match on January 19<sup>th</sup>, followed by the aforementioned pistol/benchrest experimental match on January 26<sup>th</sup>

# Temecula, Ca FT Winter Match

Jan 13 th, 2008, SUNDAY

The day started off to a bright and beautiful morning with the sun slowly rising up behind the high desert west Temecula Mountains. I was apprehensive on how the weather was going to be due to the rainy weather conditions that California has been receiving lately. Seeing the clear blue morning skies provided an amazing breath taking panoramic view.

Some of the lanes had a single target. The match rule for those lanes was that the shooter had to shoot the single target 3 times, each being a different shooting position (standing, sitting, kneeling or prone).

Each competitor had to shoot an IFP 5 bulls-eye target in LD's tunnel in the seated position. Each bull had two rings. Shooting the inner center ring was 2 points. Shooting the outer surrounding ring equaled 1 point. Shooting completely outside the bulls-eye equaled zero points. The total bulls-eye point's possible equaled 10 points making a total of 47 points possible.

There were two shooting courses at LD's Ranch of which some of us called The Ridge and The Valley. Shooting @ The Ridge area provided a grand and beautiful view of the valley projecting as if you were shooting from cliff to cliff. The terrain was getting green from the new natural yearly vegetation.

The Valley course was difficult for most competitors. Occasional mild wind channeled quickly from the mountains and into the valleys causing pellet drift up to 4-6 inches left and right. Despite the fact, many were able to clean some of the lanes.

The total number of competitors that showed up was 14. In the springer division there was 3 competitors and in the PCP division there were 11.

## Springer Division

Score/Rifle	Scope	Pellet
1st Kevin Yee 32 Kraner AA TX200	Nikko 10-50	JSB L
2nd Joe Cortez 10 AA TX200	Bushnell Legend	FTS
3rd Alain Herrera 03 RWS 34	Gold Antler 3-9	Super Domes

## PCP Division

1st Doug Miller 43 P70FT	Nikko 10-50	CPH
2nd Gene Adamos 37 USFT	Nikko 10-50	JSB H [*Won in Tie Breaker\
3rd Larry Durham 37 USFT	Elite 4200 6-24	CPH
4th Vipha Miller 35 P70FT	Leupold 35x	CPH
4th Ian Roberts 35 USFT	Nikko 10-50	JSB H
5th Roger Lovett 34 P70	Elite 4200 8-32	FTS
6th Tim McMurray 32 USFT	Nikko 10-50	JSB H
6th Dave Frederick 32 USFT	Tasco 10-40	JSB H
7th Vince Pacheco 30 USFT 12ft/lbs	Elite 4200 8-32	JSB H
8th Steve Rush 26 Logun Solo	Elite 4200 8-32	CPH
9th Mario Herrera 08 FX Swift	Unknown	Unknown

Doug Miller did a phenomenal shoot in only missing 1 field target the whole match. The marginal flawless shoot firmly placed him in 1st Place. Larry and I, with our tied scores, headed face to face in a 40 yard shoot-off on a 7/8 KZ field target to declare who was going to be 2nd. Read above for who took 2nd.

Thank you Kevin Yee from Northern California for driving 7 hours away to



participate and compete in our match. Despite what others may say, being able to shoot equal or better than a PCP Competitors score is quite a feat. Its an earned 1st placed.



# CASA Angeles FT

January 27, 2008

Today's weather forecast on Yahoo and on the news predicted torrential rain with thunderstorms throughout Southern California. Seeing the partial cloudy skies with sunlight upon waking this morning had me questioning if the match was going to go forth. Over and over in my head was the phrase that Tim had told me in regards to rain and CASA continuing to shoot FT matches, "Rain or shine we shoot". With a shadow of a doubt, I thought there were exceptions to the rule. However, I packed my gear anyways and decided to make the 35 min trip to Angeles.

During my travel to the range, there was a fading blue sky as low setting, thick, dark clouds closed in from the northwest direction. During the middle of the match, with the blotted-out sky, came severe winds with light rain. Some of us rushed shots in hopes of beating the rain before shooting conditions became harsh.

At the end of the match, Ian Roberts and Joe Haddad tied for 1st Place necessitating the need for a final shoot-off. The target was a frog on a wooden post at 40 yards. It had a 1 1/4" approximate size kill zone of which many of us missed at least once or completely. On the Troyer Factor Scale its rated as a 40 which is classified as an expert level shot. Joe Haddad took 1st place winning it through shoot-off. Ian Robert's took 2nd and I took 3rd place. Steve Moore took 1st and was the only shooter in the spring class. We all know he would off taken 1st place anyways competitor or not.

Total Points Possible 32

## PCP

1st Joe Haddad 24 Steyr LG | NS 10-50 | CPH  
 2nd Ian Roberts 24 USFT | NS10-50 | JSB H  
 3rd Gene Adamos 22 USFT | NS 10-50 | JSB H  
 4th Tim McMurray 20 USFT| NS 10-50 | JSB H

## Spring

1st Steve Moore 19 R11| 6-24 Elite | FTS

## Hunter

1st Ron Jobbes 11 B-50 | Leapers 16 | CPH



Thanks again Tim for the embroidery and the tank fill. I appreciate what extra lengths you do for CASA, FT'ers and airgunners in general. Thank you Richard for the taking the photos and allowing me to borrow the SD Card.



## Desoto Airgunners FT Club

January 20, 2008

### As Reviewed by Dick Otten:

Well, it appears that someone hijacked our predicted typical mild Florida Winter day, and substituted some outrageous Icelandic scenario. Can you say "cold and windy?" I'm sure it was in the mid 40's with gale force winds. Numb fingers and wind blown bodies made for some interesting results. I know an icy tornado came through on some of my shots, causing me to miss one or two critical shots. Well, maybe closer to 20 shots. A nice, big post match serving of Humble pie was "enjoyed" by all except Mr. Fred "wind meister" Poole, and his magic TX. We precharged shooters were entitled to second helpings, after being whipped by a piston gun. I had whipped cream on mine. Yum, yum.

In spite of the weather, we managed to lure 6 stalwart airgunners out of their cozy abodes to challenge the elements in our annual odd ball 60 shot FT match. I say odd ball, because due to space limitations, only 20 targets were employed requiring 3 shots per target to reach our 60 shot total. Congratulations to Freddie on his **OVERALL** win, beating out 4 precharged rigs. Oh yes, the Troyer for the match with the wind factor was a puckering 39.9, and that is being very generous. There were only 2 targets under 30, (both standing) and the 3/4" Groundhog at 45 yards jumped up as a daunting 75. OUCH.....

PISTON - 1st, Fred Poole 40/60 - 2nd, Harry West 14/60.

PRECHARGED - 1st, Ron Zeman 38/60 - 2nd Dick Otten 36/60 - 3rd Ed Escue 27/60 - 4th Bill Frazee DNF.

Next DeSoto Airgunners Match will be March 16, 2008. I'll try to arrange for better weather. CU there.

# BAYOU AIRGUN CLUB MATCH REPORT

## 2-2-08

Our match on 2-2-08 was well attended despite the fact that three of our top shooters were shooting in the Tampa Match. I learned later that Rosie, Bubbie and Greg were terrific representatives of BAC by taking fourth, fifth, and sixth places if I'm not mistaken. Great shooting you all! We're proud of you. Valerie Guidry was a surprise guest today and she presented some really nice personalized shooting chairs to the points winners for the three classes in 2007, Thanks Valerie, for a great gesture, and congrats to Bret for HFT, Warren for Spring Piston, and Bubbie for Pre-charged. Now each of you has your own personalized champion throne to show off! I will forward Valerie's summary to all of you today.

Since a number of our members will be going to the Texas shoot next on the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of this month, I have been asked to announce that we will have a practice match this coming Saturday. Bubbie and Greg will set up the targets on Friday, so come if you can.

### Match Results:

#### Piston Class

1. Warren Landry 35 (top score of the day, great shooting Warren!)
- 2...Ron Juneau 27
3. Ron Lambe 23
3. Jack Kirkendoll 16

#### HFT

1. Joe DuBoulay 33
2. Daniel Archibald 29

#### Precharged

1. Barry Daste 33
2. Benny Lopoo 32
3. Bubba McCormick 28
4. Linda Juneau 28

The highlight of the day was Joe's assassination of Benny's second place rock which was deliberately destroyed when Benny left early again! The rock exploded, and when Warren and Jack retrieved the pieces, they found **GOLD** inside of the rock! Warren saved the piece to prove to all what Benny missed out on. Proceeds from the sale of the rock will go towards a proposed effigy of Benny which will be hung at a future match.

## 2008 Friends of the Good Ole Boy Championship FT Match

**Dates:** June 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008

**Site:** Roz's "Hollow," Pulaski, TN.

**Directions:** Will be sent to all pre-registrants.

**Rules:** AAFTA rules apply to scoring, safety, and equipment  
Power limitation of 20ft/lbs.

**NOTE:** Timers on every lane.

**Practice Range:** Available from 7am to 6pm, 6/12-6/15

**Course of fire:** 2 days, 120 shot match

Match #1: Noon start (11:30am shooters' mtg.), 60 shots

Match #2: 9:00am start, 60 shots

**Divisions:** Piston, Pre-charged and Hunter

**Awards:** Champion and 2-5 in each division,  
High Woman, High Junior, 1<sup>st</sup> Place Team

Need more information?

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

### Match Limited to 60 Entries

#### Registration for the 2008 Good Ole Boy Match June 14th and 15th, 2008

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Rifle \_\_\_\_\_ Scope \_\_\_\_\_ Pellet \_\_\_\_\_

Division (Piston, PCP or Hunter) \_\_\_\_\_

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

Competitor: \$55.00 \_\_\_\_\_ (includes Sunday's lunch); guest lunch is \$8.00 each \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: Roz Sumpter  
and mail to:

**Roz Sumpter**  
**377 Hardy Road**  
**Pulaski, TN. 38478**

## Tampa Bay Airgunners SUPERBOWL MATCH February 2-3, 2008

### Truly a "Super" Field Target Event !

The 2008 Florida SuperBowl Field Target Match was a Super time for all. A total of 26 shooters competed in this annual two day event which combines the Florida State Championship and the SuperBowl Field Target Match.

Two distinctive courses challenged the participants. Each course consisted of 24 targets; 2 per lane; 2 shots at each. Saturday's course was designed and set by Dick Otten (Desoto Airgunners Club) and Sunday's course was set out by Cliff Smith and the Tampa Bay Airgunners. Together the 96 shot match tested every shooter's skill and equipment. There were some close shots (under 11 yards away); and some long shots set deep in wooded areas. Targets on the ground; targets resting on stumps, and a few perched up in trees all provided a delightful variety and test of skill. Doug Miller shot a phenomenal 95 of a possible 96 "kills" earning him the Top Gun award in the PCP Division. As fate would have it he missed his last shot on the last target of the event! Harold Rushton, a relative new comer to our sport took Top Gun award in the Piston Division. Well Done.

With temps in the low 80's by mid afternoon and only a moderate breeze to contend with, shooting conditions were nearly excellent. The weekend long festivities concluded with an awards ceremony (awards designed by Dick Otten using TBA's Vulture logo), and a barbeque luncheon at Tampa Bay Airgunners hosted by the men and women of American Legion Post 147.

PS: Tie breakers were determined by pre-selected lane results.

PSS: For sports fans who can't get enough; all this weekend's airgunning excellence was followed by a darn good football game that Sunday evening too !

Check out <http://home.earthlink.net/~tampabayairgunners/id24.htm>

For additional stats and photos.

By Ron Zeman

NAME	STATE	GUN	SCOPE	PEL	SAT.	SUN.	TOTAL	PLACE	FL State
<b>Piston Div.</b>									
Bill Liles		TX-200 LM	Hakko 10-50x56	CP 7.9	x48 36	x48 28	x96 64	** 4th place	
Freddie Poole		TX-200	BushnellElite 6-24	JSB L	35	32	67	2nd place + FL Champ	
Harold Rushton	AL	JW-65	BushnellElite 8-32	JSB Express	38	33	71	TOP GUN Piston	
Cliff Smith		TX-200	BushnellElite 6-24	DS JSB 8.4	35	29	64	** 3rd place	
Harry West		TX-200	BushnellElite 8-32	FTS	19	17	36	5th place	
<b>PCP-Div</b>									
Greg Blair	LA	Steyr LG100	Nikko 10-50	CP 10.5	43	40	<b>83</b>	**	
Robert Crocker	SC	Daystate MK 3	NF 36x	CP 10.5	40	43	83	**	
Ed Escue		Daystate CR-94	Hakko 8-32x50	CP 10.5	35	25	60		
Tommy Garland	GA	AA Pro-Target	NF 36x	CP 10.5	42	41	83	**	
Greg Garner	GA	AA EV-2	Leup Comp 35x	JSB Express	44	38	82		
George Hamilton		AA Pro-Target		CP 10.5	DNF	DNS			
Gordon Hodson		Steyr LG100 AZ	Nikko 10-50	JSB H	39	29	68		
Ken Hughes	GA	AA RN-10	NF 36x		42	41	83	** 6th place	
Tom Itterly	TN	Steyr LG100	Nikko Sterling	CP 10.5	37	35	72		
Doug Miller	CA	FWB-P70 OM	Nikko 10-50	CP 10.5	48	47	95	TOP GUN PCP	
Vipha Miller	CA	FWB-P70 OM	Leup Comp 35x	CP 10.5	43	37	80		
Guy Omictin		P-70 OM FT	Nikko 10-50	CP 10.5	46	44	90	2nd place + FL Champ	
Jon Oswald	GA	USFT	Nikko 10-50x60		37	31	68		
Dick Otten		USFTshootamatic	Leup Comp 35x	JSB H	34	40	74		
Robert Ray	TN	USFT	Nikko 10-50x60	CP 10.5	46	44	90	3rd place	
Gordon Smith	LA	Steyr LG100	BSA 10-50x60	CP 10.5	45	41	86	5th place	
Rosie Smith	LA	Steyr LG100	Nikko 10-50	CP 10.5	47	35	82		
Roz Sumpter	TN	Theoben MFR	Nikko 10-50x60	JSB H	44	35	79		
Doug Vinson	GA	AA Pro-Target	Leup Comp 35x		44	43	87	4th place	
Werner Wicha	VA	WaltherLG300 DM	BSA 10-50x60	JSB H	34	32	66		
Ron Zeman		Steyr LG100	Nikko 10-50x60	JSB H	42	39	81		

\*\* Ties below 1st place settled by 'tie breaker' lanes chosen before match start.

### Saturday Course

#### Field Target Course Detail Super Bowl Saturday

2/5/2008

	Position	Target	KZ_size (inches)	Distance (yards)	Elevated?	Poor light?	Windy?	Difficulty (Troyers)	Comments
1									
1	Any FT	Squirrel 29C	0.5	15	No	No	No	30.00	
2	Any FT	Rabbit 9B	1	35	No	No	No	35.00	
2									
1	Any FT	Rat 12	1	21	No	No	No	21.00	
2	Any FT	Squirrel 19	1	30	No	No	No	30.00	
3									
1	Any FT	Butterfly 4A	0.75	16	No	No	No	21.30	
2	Any FT	Butterfly 4B	0.5	16	No	No	No	32.00	
3	Any FT	Popper 10C	0.75	25	No	No	No	33.30	
4									
1	Any FT	Beaver 1F	0.375	12	No	No	No	32.00	
2	Any FT	Frog 15	1	28	No	No	No	28.00	
5									
1	Any FT	Magpie 7	1	25	No	No	No	25.00	
2	Any FT	Magpie 2	0.75	27	No	No	No	36.00	
6									
1	Any FT	Rabbit 24C	0.5	20	No	No	No	40.00	
2	Any FT	Big Owl	0.75	27	No	No	No	36.00	
7									
1	Any FT	Groundhog 6D	0.625	17	No	No	No	27.20	
2	Any FT	Crow #1 3C	0.5	23	No	No	No	46.00	
8									
1	Standing	Goliath	3	20	No	No	No	11.70	
2	Standing	Snake 16A	1.75	33	No	No	No	33.00	
9									
1	Any FT	Giant Gator	1.625	26	No	No	No	16.00	
2	Any FT	Id Gator 31E	0.75	29	No	No	No	38.70	
10									
1	Any FT	Squirrel 18C	0.75	18	No	No	No	24.00	
2	Any FT	Wolf 22	1.75	35	No	No	No	20.00	
11									
1	Any FT	Squirrel 20	0.375	12	No	No	No	32.00	
2	Any FT	Rook 32C	0.5	27	No	No	No	54.00	
12									
1	Any FT	6 TBA Squirr	0.75	30	Yes	No	No	50.00	
2	Any FT	Rabbit 8	1.5	47	No	No	No	35.30	

Course difficulty: 31.50



**2008 SUPER BOWL TARGET STATS for SUNDAY**

LANE	TARGET	YARDAGE	KZ SIZE	TROYER
1 near	Frog-small	20 yds.	1/2"	=40
1 far	Harvey Rabbit	36 yds.	1"	=36
2 near	Magpie w/flag	35 yds.	1 1/16"	=33
2 far	Grouse	52 yds.	1 1/2"	=35
3 near	Black Bird	48 yds.	1 1/2"	=32
3 far	Frog-large	54 yds.	1 1/2"	=36
4 near	Gator 2 KZ's	31 yds.	1" and 3/4"	=31 and =41
4 far	Crow	48 yds.	1 1/2"	=32
5 near	Mouse on trap	34 yds.	1 1/8"	=30
5 far	Tazmanian D.	48 yds.	1 1/4"	=38
6 near	Vulture	29 yds.	3/4"	=39
6 far	Squirrel	51 yds.	1 1/4"	=41
7 near	Large Fox	24 yds.	1 7/8"	=22 (with Offhand factor)
7 far	Jake Turkey	36 yds.	1 3/4"	=36 (with Offhand factor)
8 near	Blue Jay	36 yds.	15/16"	=41
8 far	FL Tree Rabbit	41 yds.	1 1/4"	=33
9 near	Heron with frog	20 yds.	1/2"	=40
9 far	Pheasant	38 yds.	1"	=38
10 near	Football w/goal	29 yds.	3/4"	=39
10 far	Bob White	35 yds.	1"	=35
11 near	Bird in Cage	11 yds.	3/8"	=29
11 far	Woodpecker	28 yds.	1"	=28
12 near	Dove	16 yds.	1/2"	=32

Average base Troyer Factor = 33.375 But moderate switching wind should add 10% to that figure



Doug Miller PCP Champ

Harold Rushton Piston Champ

## Arizona Airgunners Match Report February 16, 2008

This is supposed to be the middle of winter, and while the rest of the country is having snow storms and freezing weather, those of us who live in paradise (aka Arizona) are experiencing blue skies and near 70 degree temperatures. This month's match could not have been any more perfect!

The day almost did not start out that way. We had rain on Friday, as a weather front moved through, and Saturday morning the fog was quite thick in areas, while driving to the match. By the time we started sight in, the sun had burned through and the skies cleared, and it got....how can I put this to not offend folks (read Billy Lo, Steve Shinis, etc, etc, etc).....downright balmy! If you guys want to freeze your tush's off shooting the blue balls, go for it. WE got sunshine and warmth....and are loving it.

We had a 48-target match, with some tricky shots and interesting target placements; behind bushes, up in trees, over a bank but under a log (double headed snake), and some deceptive long shots, too. This owl at 48 yards, and 10 feet up in a tree was novel:

Dale and Debbie Keiser once again hosted this match and did an outstanding job of target placement. We are indebted to them for taking on the challenge and for providing lunch also. Debbie, those braats were delicious, as was everything else. Thank you!

We had LD and Vince join us from California, finally. After a little mishap with time zones and misread directions but they finally made it and we thank them for joining us. With 14 shooters and only the 2nd match of the year, we did pretty good. Of course Bobby Corcorran showed us how it is done, but drafting on his lead were some other pretty good displays of marksmanship.

Here are the scores:

#### Match Winner

<b>Bobby Corcorran</b>	<b>43 / 48</b>
1 Larry Durham	42 / 48
2 Dale Keiser	41 / 48
3 Debbie Keiser	39 / 48
4 Vince Pacheco	38 / 48
5 Larry Piercy	34 / 48
6 Steve Montgomery	33 / 48
7 Klayton Kidd	31 / 48
8 Larry Nelson	28 / 48
9 Mark Kauffman	24 / 48
10 Ron Drye	23 / 48
11 Bonni Drye	19 / 48
12 Christopher Amy	18 / 48
13 Robin Montgomery	16 / 48



(Sorry these scores are not in the Excel format that I originally posted them, with guns, scopes, pellets, etc. That can be found on our website. I must be doing something wrong and cannot figure it out....drat!)

Our March match will be near Cherry, AZ and the April match will be in Camp Verde, AZ Please refer to our website, [www.airgunsofarizona.com/Airgunners](http://www.airgunsofarizona.com/Airgunners) for directions and times.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman  
Secretary, Airgunners of Arizona



The Crosman

# Benjamin Discovery Pre-charged Pneumatic Air Rifle

Jim Chapman

Americanairgunhunter.com

Be sure to visit [www.crosman.com](http://www.crosman.com) for more info, .177 cal version also available.

I was on my way home from a morning deer hunt when my cell phone rang, it was the project manager responsible for a new rifle being manufactured by the American airgun giant Crosman. She told me that my name had been brought up as a possible candidate to try out an innovative new airgun design Crosman was working on. She stated that they anticipated this product would have a major impact on airgun hunting in this country, and wondered if I might like to get a pre-production gun for testing. Well of course I was interested in learning more about this pneumatic (PCP) design based on the company's long established 2260 CO2 rifle. I have a couple of these rifles in my collection, and have done a fair amount of customization modifying the valves and triggers for use as a platform to build my own pcps. Therefore, the idea of Crosman basing their new PCP on the venerable 2260 design resonated with me, as the core technology is well proven. And while the gun leveraged the established 2260 technology, optimizing it to run on high pressure air was not just a matter of slapping a high pressure air reservoir on in place of the CO2 reservoir. A redesign of the valve, the development of the valve anchoring and installation, and a new filling port were required as well.

Nor was the intent simply to build another PCP. While this type of airgun is not widely known in North America, in much of the world it is the airgun technology used by the greatest number of hunters. To meet the demands of American hunters the rifle needed to be positioned at the right price point, British airgunners routinely pay more than \$1000.00 for their pcps, and perhaps hundreds more on filling gear. But unlike much of the world, American shooters have access to low cost firearms, making the high price or European airguns less attractive to many shooters here.

To gain acceptance in our market, Crosman also needed to deliver a power source that could be independent of expensive filling gear, such as compressors and high pressure air tanks. Hand pumps, which resemble nothing more than a bicycle tire pump on steroids, have been around for years and offer an attractive alternative. But if you have a gun that needs to be charged up to 3000 psi, you may have to apply a couple hundred pumping strokes to fill the onboard reservoir. So if the gun could be designed to work at a lower pressure but still deliver the power and shot capacity, a hand pump could be used with much less effort and free the shooter from dependency on a compressor.

And from these requirements, the Benjamin Discovery was developed. The first serious airgun for many of us was the Benjamin multi-pump air rifle, and Benjamin has always been synonymous with high production quality. When Crosman acquired this company many years ago, they (wisely in my opinion) decided to retain the Benjamin name as their premium brand. The Benjamin Discovery is a gun that delivers on the requirements set forth; it is based on a known technology, it is designed to yield high velocities at a relatively low fill pressure, and the price point for a package consisting of the rifle and the pump is well below what is typically paid for the gun alone. It has also been designed to implement a feature called Dual Fuel™ technology, which permits the gun to operate on compressed air for field work or with CO2 for plinking and target practice when lower velocities are desired.

To set up and get a feel for the rifle I started off on the bench. This is my normal procedure to see what pellets perform best, as airguns can be quite finicky about which projectiles yield the best all around performance. After assessing how the gun grouped and what velocities were achieved using a variety of different pellets, I headed out squirrel, rabbit, and pest hunting. But before we get to the hunting, let's take a look at the gun and how it performed.

## Overall Impression

The Discovery is a compact rifle that weighs 5 lb 2 oz, and is 40 inches overall with a 23.6 inch barrel. The first thing that struck me when I unpacked the shipping crate was that while the gun bears a strong resemblance to the standard 2260, there were also some striking differences.

The stock on my test gun is a nicely figured hardwood that has a more finely shaped pistol grip than the standard 2260. The depth and width of the forestock is a bit more substantial as well, which is needed to house the onboard pressure gauge that is situated a few inches in front of the trigger guard. The stock is finished with a buttplate made of high impact plastic, that work well enough as there is really no recoil to speak of. When personalizing this gun to make it my own, I replaced this component with a ventilated rubber buttpad to suit my own taste.

The trigger has a fairly heavy pull and is not adjustable, with a blade that is wide and has a good tactile feel. The safety is a transfer bar type that is situated in front of the trigger. The trigger guard is large and easily accommodates a gloved finger, which is important when this Californian native hunts winter squirrels in my current Midwestern home. This is the same trigger component found on the 2260, and the whole assembly is one piece and fabricated in high impact plastic. Admittedly this is not my favorite material on a gun, but the primary factor is how well it works, and well look at this later in performance testing.

Another major change with this gun is the high pressure air reservoir for onboard storage of compressed air. The Discovery stores air in a reservoir made of carbon steel DOM tubing, with a filling capacity of 135 cc (8.3 cubic inch). The reservoir tube is capped with a male Foster quick release connector that permits easy filling of the gun, I much prefer this set up over the filling probes used in many pcpc designs. Though the recommended fill pressure is 2000 psi, the tube and valve assemblies have been hydrostatic tested to 11000 psi (the tube alone to 15000 psi). Speaking of the valve, it is a new design based on existing technology. Additional sealing o-rings have been implemented and spring rates changed to work with not only higher air pressures but also work with CO2 pressures. The new valve is anchored in place with three screws rather than the single anchor point used with the 2260.

The receiver is grooved, and the sharply cut grooving is long enough to allow short or long tubed scopes to be mounted, which makes optimal installation of the scope a cinch. I used high profile Centerpoint mounts with a Centerpoint 3-12x variable scope on my test rifle, which offered up crisp and clear images along with good low light transmission. Low light situations were further enhanced by the illuminated reticule, that was especially useful when taking the rifle on pest control duty in the evening or when inside of an unlighted barn.

The cocking action of this gun is excellent. It is the same traditional bolt action that is found on the 2260. The loading port is accessed and the action is cocked as the bolt is pulled back, after loading in the bolt is push forward and down in preparation for shooting. I found it effortless to pull the bolt back with my index finger and pushing it forward with my thumb, requiring minimal hand motion. This is a desirable attribute in a hunting rifle, and I think it is indicative of how well the hammer and valve springs are balanced that such a light hammer spring works so well.

## Pump

One of the main limitations in the acceptance to pcps in this country, is the dependence on an outside power source. These guns can be filled from either a

hand pump or a high pressure compressed air tank, but both of these methods have had some drawbacks. High pressure tanks are the easiest and most effective approach to filling you pcp, however it is necessary to have a compressor (dive shop, paintball shop or fire station) in the area willing to fill your tank. Even when these facilities are available, the tanks and all the kit needed to go with them can get expensive. A hand pump on the other hand, is less expensive, more portable, and frees the shooter from reliance on a compressor. But they can take a lot of effort, which is especially true if the gun fills to the industry standard 3000 psi. That is why a gun designed to fill and operate efficiently at 2000 psi is an ideal candidate for manual filling. Take it from somebody that has charged a rifle to over 3000 psi with a hand pump, the difference between hitting the 2000 psi mark and the 3000 psi mark is the difference between day and night!

An airgun hand pump works very much like a bicycle pump, but is a much sturdier construction with a higher volume pumping chamber. The pump will also have a bleed valve to depressurize the hose after the tank has been closed, which then causes the fill valve to snap shut as the pressure in the hose falls lower than that in the guns reservoir. A braided high pressure hose is attached to the pump by screwing into a port on the body of the pump, and attached to the gun (in the case of this set up) by a female Foster coupling.

Crosman has taken an innovative step, and it is not so much the design of the pump but the packaging of it with the rifle. The discovery pump is a traditional design that can charge the rifle from empty to 2000 psi with about 100 strokes. After you fill the gun it will deliver about thirty five full power shots before needing to be charged again. It doesn't hurt to leave the gun charged up between outings; as a matter of fact it is better for the valve to be stored under pressure when not in use.

I find the pump to be solidly built and reliable, in line with other quality hand pumps I've used over the years. The gauge is accurate and closely matches the pressure reading obtained from the onboard gauge. One area that I think could be improved is the position of the bleed valve below the connecting hose; I find it a little awkward to reach when bleeding the line to disconnect. But this is not a critical factor and does not hamper the effectiveness of the device.

Another really interesting aspect of this gun is that it can run off of either compressed air or bulk fill CO2. The option is called the Duel Fuel option consist of an adaptor that permits the gun to be filled from a standard paintball tank, with velocities over 600 fps in .22. A single charge yields approximately 100 full power shots.

#### Initial Shooting Impressions

I spent a few days getting used to the gun before serious testing took place. I filled the gun with the pump a few times to get used to it, and then switched over to my tanks for the rest of the shooting.

In the couple of months I've had the gun, I have tested it with around thirty different pellets, and while it does have its preferences (as almost all air rifles do) it is quite tolerant and fires several brands well. In a later article I will give the specific details of the performance with a variety of pellets shot over the chrony and for groups. To illustrate my statement that this gun has everything a hunter needs withy respect to accuracy, I've included a couple demonstrative targets. The first target shows a series of five shot groups at 35 yards with six different pellets, the second was achieved in a sitting position with the gun rested on shooting sticks with CPs, and the last is a 36 shot group using CPs obtained with a single charge. Velocities achieved with the various pellets averaged from 790 to 850 fps, with most medium weight pellets in the mid 800 fps range. The shot to shot consistency across a fill is quite impressive

I've used this gun on a few squirrel hunts this season. Its compact dimensions along with performance, both in terms of power and accuracy, made this a fun little huntingrifle. It easily dropped bushytails out to 50 yards with both head shots and well placed chest shots. And the low sound signature, much quieter than even a .22 short rimfire, really opened up a lot of new hunting opportunities. On a squirrel hunt I kicked up a cottontail that ran thirty yards and held up in a dense tangle of vines, I leaned against a tree, dialed up the scope, and dumped him with a perfectly place headshot. And when I missed, it was easy to quickly cock and load the gun for a followup. I sat at the base of a tree cycling the gun for a follow up shot, and I'm sure the critter would have bolted if the gun had forced me to make to make big moves to ready for action. This is the one gun (I'm taking on my Mojave JackRabbit hunt right before the shot show. I think it will be great medicine for the big desert rabbit.

#### Summary

So if I turn a critical eye on the gun? As mentioned the plastic trigger is not my favorite aspect of the gun, but it is function that matters. The trigger provides a good tactile feedback with minimal creep and the trigger breaks crisply. I personally am happy with this trigger, it is not target quality but provides a good solid performance for a hunting rifle. I believe this will probably be the opinion of most shooters, but there are those that will want to tweak and tune it. The trigger as specified is non-adjustable, but there are a lot of online resources that will teach the aspiring gunsmith to smooth out the action, though you'll void the warranty doing so. I think that this is an area where we'll see third party suppliers offering aftermarket parts; perhaps even the Crosman Custom shop will pick up on it.

I've put several hundreds of pellets through the Discovery to date, and it is robust and reliable. The gun carries and comes to the shoulder well, and will fit most shooters, though if you have long arms it wouldn't hurt to replace the buttpad. It has a very ergonomic cocking action that is really quite nice in a hunting rifle. Easy to cock and load without a lot of motion. The Benjamin Discovery will be an important gun for the domestic market; offering very good performance in a price effective package. Put this in perspective; you will get a gun capable of generating over 17 fpe and placing a .22 pellet in a quarter inch group at 35 yards, with a quality hand pump, that also runs on bulk fill CO2 (optional adaptor required) for under \$400.00 ..... alright, just under at \$399.00! This will open the world of PCP airguns to a whole new audience, which will only benefit the sport as a whole. I really think Crosman got it right with the Benjamin Discovery.



## Blue Ball of Fame Match VI

### The Orb Remains in New York!

### Billy Lo Does It Again

**Sadly the Orb is back in New York      February 2 2008 by David Day**

With a 24/30! Great shooting Billy Lo! Using a Steyr LP1P with iron sights for the pistol course and a Daystate Huntsman .22 with a Simmons 44 Mag scope for the rifle portion of the 1" blue ball busting competition at 30 yards which is fired in the standard FT sitting position with a Price rig, great practice for field target. The .22 cp's broke those blue balls with authority!

Again, the weather was not as severe as we'd have liked for Blue Balls, but it was nippy and we had a good breeze going that made things interesting. We had representatives from Idaho, New Hampshire, New York, Georgia, Connecticut and New Jersey at the match.....all people who are the die-hard airgunners who braved potentially harsh elements to shoot Blue Balls VI.

The day started on an interesting note as I got pulled over for speeding on Woodtick Rd which leads to WLOPA. I just explained to the officer that I was on my way to the gun club to host the blue balls match, and that was enough to get me out of the ticket. After all I don't think anyone wants to explain blue balls in a court of law.

The competition was intense, but with a score of 11/15 on the 11 yd pistol balls, Lo simply pulled away from the pack. It wasn't a complete blow-out for Lo though. Mike Miller of Connecticut, and Ed Reinheimer of New Jersey were hot on his heels with tied scores in 2nd place of 20/30.

Unfortunately, George Blass, 2006 winner had a bad day on the pistol leg of the match and was well back in the pack. George was given explicit instructions from Mrs George to bring the ball home or face the consequences, so if anyone sees George out in the cold, please consider putting him up for the night. I believe the parting command upon leaving his house was, "don't shame the name." We know how that ended don't we George. Good thing you have that big camper.

Here are some pics - complete details to follow on the WLOPA web site in a few days. <http://www.wlopa.com/wlopaair.htm>



Group photo of Blue Ball Aficionados

Blue Ball of Fame, Beely and Beely Cray



A couple of Day's taking aim at their balls



Frog SAC Mojo



Luck 'o' the Irish Sac



Lone surviving LA Bank Robber



They call him the BREEZE



Official Blue Ball Score Sheet



The AAFTA News is published 9 times a year depending on having enough submitted material to warrant that many issues. Tentative deadlines for submissions are as follows:

Jan/Feb	Jan 20	June	May 20	Sept	Aug 20
Mar/Apr	Mar 20	July	June 20	Oct	Sept 20
May	Apr 20	Aug	July 20	Nov/Dec	Nov 20

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