

AAFTA NEWS



AMERICAN AIRGUN FIELD TARGET ASSOCIATION

December, 2000

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Peace and Goodwill

The following is an excerpt from an article I wrote for a British airgun magazine several years ago for their December issue.

Since this is the Christmas Season, a joyful aspect of airgunning should be pointed out. We are well aware that the United States is a mongrel nation made up of many races and creeds. Divergent ethnicity's and wide socioeconomic structures have now arrived at a state where there is no such thing as a typical American. Despite the myriad of laws that protect our rights and bans discrimination, just under the surface of American society lies a host of prejudices ready to break out. Our vernacular is full of derogatory terms: rural folk are hicks, hillbillies, or rednecks, city dwellers are city slickers, engineers are gearheads, intellectuals are eggheads. Then there are expressions such as WASP (White Anglo Saxon Protestant) and JAP (Jewish American Princess). There are many, much more vitriolic epithets for every race in America - French, German, African, Polish, Japanese, Dutch, English, Finnish, Irish, Italian, Chinese, Russian Swedish and lots more. In addition to racial friction you can throw in a bit of religious factionalism - Christians, Roman Catholics, Jews, Baptists, Evangelists and a host of denominations and cults. In between all of the above you can add the prejudice between the wealthy, the poor and the middle income people. It's all a big mess. What's it got to do with airgunning?

After many years of varying contacts with hundreds and hundreds of airgunners it has dawned on me that racial or religious background or one's income or occupation was casually accepted without any fuss or bother. The important thing was the bond of the common denominator, interest in airguns. I'm acquainted with lots of airgunners where the only clue as to their heritage is their surname and the only important thing was to get the spelling right. Here's a sample: Zasadny, Shimizu, Wiener, Wnukowski, Farrugia, Bialecki, Peiser, Pilz, Otsuka, Banasik, Bomke, Bialecki, Bonnano, Kirkendoll, Juneau, Macias, Montbriand, Bloom, Morales, Garcia, Saltzman, Siriluck, Dos Passos, Pitsoulakis, Pucilowski, Robichaux, Uyechi, Ochiai, Wulfekotte, Buckenroth, Lai, Giacomini, Fenstermacher, and on and on. There is a mystique to the sport of airgunning that brings out the best in us. This fraternal spirit induced by our sport puts real meaning into the Christmas Season and what this holiday time represents.

"Peace on Earth and Goodwill toward All Men." Merry Christmas to all of you.

- Rodney Boyce

AA:	Airgunning Atlanta. Atlanta, Georgia Ken Hughes 770-445-0789	OAFTSA:	Ohio Airgun & Field Target Shooters Association Vienna, Ohio Rick Smelko 330-637-9442
AOA:	Airgunners of Arizona. Mesa, Arizona Robert Buchanan 602-461-1113	OASA:	Ohio Airgun Shooters Association. Mansfield, Ohio Bruce Perathaner 419-756-7813
BAC:	Bayou Airgun Club, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Jack Kirkendoll 225-755-1715	OH:	One Holers. Blaine, Minnesota Paul Anderson 612-780-1490
BAGA:	Badgerland Air Gun Assoc., Bristol, Wisconsin Alex Modic 262-895-7251 modic@execpc.com	PA:	Phoenix Airgunners, Phoenix, Arizona Bobby L. Cocorran 5325 W. Pierson Phoenix, AZ 95031
BEC:	Bulls Eye Club. St. Martinsville, Louisiana Roland Robichaux 318-394-3611	PEL:	Pelican Airgunners, Dade City, Florida Don Vanderwerker 813-621-1509
BGAC:	Bluegrass Airgun Club, Lexington, Kentucky Steve Cox 606-263-8378	PFTAC:	Pennsylvania Field Target & Airgun Club Lt. Joseph J. Koslop 717-454-7456
CAC:	Carolina Airgun Club, Winston-Salem, North Carolina Jeff Miller 336-764-4734	PMRPC:	Port Malabar Rifle & Pistol Club Port Malabar, Florida Steve Minner 407-728-7850 stevemnr@earthlink.net
CASA:	California Airgun Shooters Association Los Angeles, California Dave Slade 714-376-6981	PSC:	Pearland Sportsman's Club. Pearland, Texas Bob Zimmerman 713-436-1794
DIFTA:	Damascus Maryland Chapter of the Isaak Walton League of America Phil Dean 301-831-9325	RCA:	River City Airgunners. Spokane, Washington Tom Price 509-535-7993
DJMC:	Delran Junior Marksman. Delran, New Jersey John Quiter 732-269-3303	SSG:	Single Shot Group, South Lyon, Michigan Bill Erwin 313-437-3132
EFTCC:	Eastern Field Target Competitor's Club Wappingers Falls, NY Ray Apelles 845-896-9792	TBA:	Tampa Bay Airgunners. Odessa, Florida Cliff Smith 813-884-0507
MAFTA:	Minnesota Airgun Field Target Association Minneapolis, Minnesota Rodney Skogen 651-482-1116	TVA	Tennessee Valley Airgunners, Huntsville, Alabama Brad Troyer 256-882-2811
MCFG:	Marion County Fish & Game Association Indianapolis, Indiana Anthony Storey 317-925-5544	WCSC:	Westfield Sportsman's Club. Westfield, Massachusetts Mark Lisowski 413-562-8997
MSTS:	Mid South Tri-State Airgunners Association Memphis, Tennessee Tom Itterly 901-872-0751	WFTA:	Williamson Conservation & Sporting Club Williamson, New York Bill Chappell 315-589-2270
MSFTA	Mountain State Field Target Association St. Albans, West Virginia Rick McAllister 304-727-2752 rick.mcallister@worldnet.att	WWCCA:	Western Wayne County Conservation Association Rick Stoutenberg 734-261-1683
NIAG:	Northern Illinois Air Gunners. Chicago, Illinois Greg Rozak 773-646-1807		Associate Member Clubs Waterloo Field Target Association Waterloo, Ontario, Canada Fred Truscott 519-985-0042
NOCASA:	Northern California Airgun Shooters Association. San Francisco, California Mike McKeown 707-253-8029		

Match Calendar

January

Sat. 27th } PEL & TBA -
Sun. 28th } "Superbowl100"
Sun. 28th EFTCC - *Mid-Winter Indoor/
Outdoor Off-Hand Only Match*

April

Sat. 7th EFTCC

June

Sat. 2nd EFTCC

August

Sat. 4th EFTCC

September

Sun. 30th EFTCC

November

Sun. 18th EFTCC - *New York State
Championship.*

FT Air Rifles

Airgun Express (Mako/HW, TX200)-	800-896-4867
Airguns Alaska	907-522-5900
Airguns of Arizona (Daystate, Air Arms, Beeman)	602-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns (Mako/HW77 & 97)	800-227-2744
Benson's Airgun Options-	888-952-1231
Burroughs International (Career)-	310-457-5932
Ken's Airsports (TX200)-	419-837-6459
Mac-1 (Steyr)	310-327-3581
Marksman (Marksman 61)	714-989-7535
Mance Etheredge (FWB P70 FT)-	303-331-0471
Pelaire Products (Whiscombe)	561-439-0691
Spot-On Arms	651-429-1139
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544
Tom's Precision Airguns	509-535-7993
Wade Sutherland	622-429-4663
W.W. Mann International	317-241-6011

Airgun Accessories

Airgun Gear	509-535-7993
Precision Airgun Ltd.-	562-430-9183

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	602-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns-	800-227-2744
Pelaire Products-	561-439-0691
Spot-On Arms	612-429-1139

Field Targets

Pelaire Products-	561-439-0691
Precision Airgun Ltd.-	562-430-9183
Rick Stoutenburg	313-261-1683
Ron Juneau's Cajun Targets	225-261-7435
-	juneaur@bellsouth.net
Spot-On Arms	612-429-1139

Gas Rams

Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	714-891-6801
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Lubricants

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	602-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns-	800-227-2744
Pelaire Products-	561-439-0691

Pellets

Airgun Express (Crosman Premier)	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	602-461-1113

Beeman Precision Airguns -	800-227-2744
Mac-1 -	310-327-3581
Marksman -	714-989-7535
Pelaire Products (Beeman-Crosman)-	561-439-0691
Spot-On Arms (Crosman Premier) -	612-429-1139

Publications

AAFTA News	662-429-4663
and AAFTA "Clubs & Shooters Handbook"	
Airgun Digest 3rd Edition-	800-247-4876
Airgun Letter-	410-730-5496
Airgun Revue	410-730-5496
U.S. Airgun Magazine	800-247-4867

Regulators

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

Repair & Tuning

Beeman Precision Airguns -	800-227-2744
Bob Bliss Tuning -	602-834-7290
Dave Slade's Airgunwerks -	714-376-6981
Ken's Airsports-	419-837-6459
Mac-1 (Crosman/Benjamin/Sheridan)	310-327-3581
Rodney Boyce (Daystate only)	561-655-5427

Scopes

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Mance Etheredge (Nightforce 36X)-	303-331-0471
Spot-On Arms	612-429-1139
Storey "Custom Shop" (Custom 36X/6-24X)	317-925-5544

Scope Knobs and/or Levels

The "A" Team	845-896-9792
-	and 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

Scope Mounts

Airgun Express	800-896-4867
Airguns of Arizona	602-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns	800-227-2744
Mac-1 (Droopers)	310-327-3581
Pelaire Products	561-439-0691
Precision Air Gun LTD. (Bkl Mounts)	562-430-9183
Spot-On Arms	612-429-1139

Silhouette Targets

Precision Airgun Ltd.-	562-430-9183
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Stocks

Wade Sutherland	662-429-4663
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Video's

Pellethead	800-213-2088
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PELICAN AIRGUNNERS
DADE CITY, FLORIDA

Tampa Bay
Airgunners
Odessa, Florida



FLORIDA WEST COAST OPEN

by Cliff Smith

Ohio ----- low 30's

Atlanta ----- 30's and snow

Tennessee --- upper 30's

Tampa ----- 70 with sunshine

On Saturday afternoon, December 2, and Sunday morning, December 3, the Pelitcan club and Tampa Bay Airgunners hosted the 2000 Florida West Coast Open. This was a 100 shot match. 50 shots on Saturday at the Dade City Rifle and Pistol Range and 50 shots on Sunday at American Legion Post 147 in Tampa. Five shooters came from out of state with the desire to wrest one more fair weather airgun match from the year 2000.

For the Dade City venue we had picture perfect weather. Low 70's, sunshine and light winds that only threatened our pellets toward the end of the afternoon. The course was 8 lanes of 3 targets each plus one lane for an off-hand target. All lanes were in fairly dense woods with the quarry placed on the ground, in trees and on fence posts from 12 to 55 yards. Targets were a mix of U.S. and U.K. brands as well as some Don Vandewerker homemades. Note the two class winners on Saturday parlayed those wins into match championships on Sunday.

Sunday dawned misty, damp and chilly. Although the temperature reached 65, the sun was visible for just a few minutes. A 10 to 15 MPH breeze worsened the chill factor and did nothing to help guide the pellets towards those 50 and 50 plus yard targets. The Tampa Bay Airgunner course was 8 lanes with a fourth target for off-hand on one of the lanes. The targets were all designed and built of wood and metal by Terry Shults and Ike Gatwood. The faces were painted

with cartoon characters like Wiley Coyote and Yosemite Sam and each lane's targets created a theme. There was one ornery target that fell only when it wanted to, so we all got 2 points for it. The first 30 to 40 yards of each lane is mostly open with a few larger trees, beyond which is dense woods.

The final scoring showed a 3 way tie for second place in open class. Dave Simpson had to hit the road back to Atlanta, so deferred to John and Terry. They had a sudden death shootoff at a 1/2" target beyond 30 yards.

The dinner bell rang as we finished shooting, so we enjoyed the BBQ chicken, beans, slaw and desserts prepared by the American Legion chefs. Jim Smith, our usual chef extraordinaire, actually shot with us Sunday, but the food was excellent never the less.

After the meal, we gathered for the awards. Mel Bomke shot both courses extremely well and took the open class championship. He also took possession of the perpetual trophy for Florida High Score which he will "own" until next year. Equally impressive was Roz Sumpter's score with his JW50 and a 20 power scope to capture the piston class championship by 16 points. A final award, the Florida Unsung Hero trophy, was given to Jim Smith. This award is given for sustained service to the Florida airgun community throughout the year, or as in Jim's case, years.

A quick appreciation is in order to Rodger Clapp who made it to Tampa Sunday even though his wife Debbie was in bed with the flu. Part of his impetus was to try out his Xmas present to Debbie, a Daystate Harrier "Light" ordered at the World shoot.



PELICAN AIRGUNNERS
DADE CITY, FLORIDA

Tampa Bay
Airgunners
Odessa, Florida



SCORES FROM FLORIDA WEST COAST OPEN

12/2/00 & 12/3/00

<u>Name</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Sat</u>	<u>Sun</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Place</u>
Mel Bomke	Titan Custom	BSA 10-50	47	48	95	Champion
Don Vandewerker	Daystate CRX	Nightforce 36x	44	43	87	1st
Terry Shults	Daystate CRX	Burriss 8-32	42	43	85	2nd
John Draper	Daystate CRX	Nightforce 36x	43	42	85	3rd
Dave Simpson	ZM2002	Burriss 8-32	45	40	85	4th
Lori Simpson	ZM2002	B&L 8-32	44	40	84	5th
Roz Sumpter	JW50	Simmons 6.5-20	40	44	84	Piston Champ
Bob Duncan	AA Pro-Target	Nightforce 36x	43	40	83	6th
Ken Hughes	AA 100	Burriss 8-32	37	44	81	7th
Jim Baumann	Daystate Huntsman	B&L 6-24	39	38	77	8th
Bill Guidry	AA TX200	Leupold 1840	33	35	68	Piston 1st
Ike Gatwood	Daystate CR94	Burriss 8-32	35	31	66	9th
Cliff Smith	AA TX200 HC	Leupold 6.5-20	26	36	62	Piston 2nd
Chris Allen	Daystate, CRX	Burriss 8-32	35	26	61	10th
Dick Otten	HW77	Simmons 6.5-20	15	24	39	Piston 3rd
Wendel Weston	AA Pro-Sport	Bushnell 8-12	7	14	21	Piston 4th
Jim Smith	Titan Custom	Nightforce 36x		35		
Rodger Clapp	Daystate CRX	Burriss 8-32		22		

Note 1: Wendel took all shots off-hand on Saturday and kneeling on Sunday.

Note 2: All shooters used Crosman Premiers except Roz whose JW50 likes the new Air Arms 8.3 grain pellets in 4.52 mm size.

Did you miss the Florida West-Coast Open?

We'll give you another chance to shoot in sunny Florida. Our traditional *Super Bowl weekend match* will be January 27th and 28th, 2001. Saturday afternoon at Dade City, Sunday morning at Tampa.

Call or e-mail Cliff Smith (813) 884-0507 cliffsmith@att.net or Don Vandewerker (813) 621-1509 dvande9944@aol.com for particulars.

EFFECTIVE PAPER PRACTICE

For a long time I've witnessed many shooters "practicing" in random fashion with no regimen, with same size kill zones set out at known distances. Misses were quickly excused - bad pellet, the wind, or the reg was "funny." This ineffectual glorified plinking only benefits the pellet manufacturers. Practice should simulate Field Target challenges.

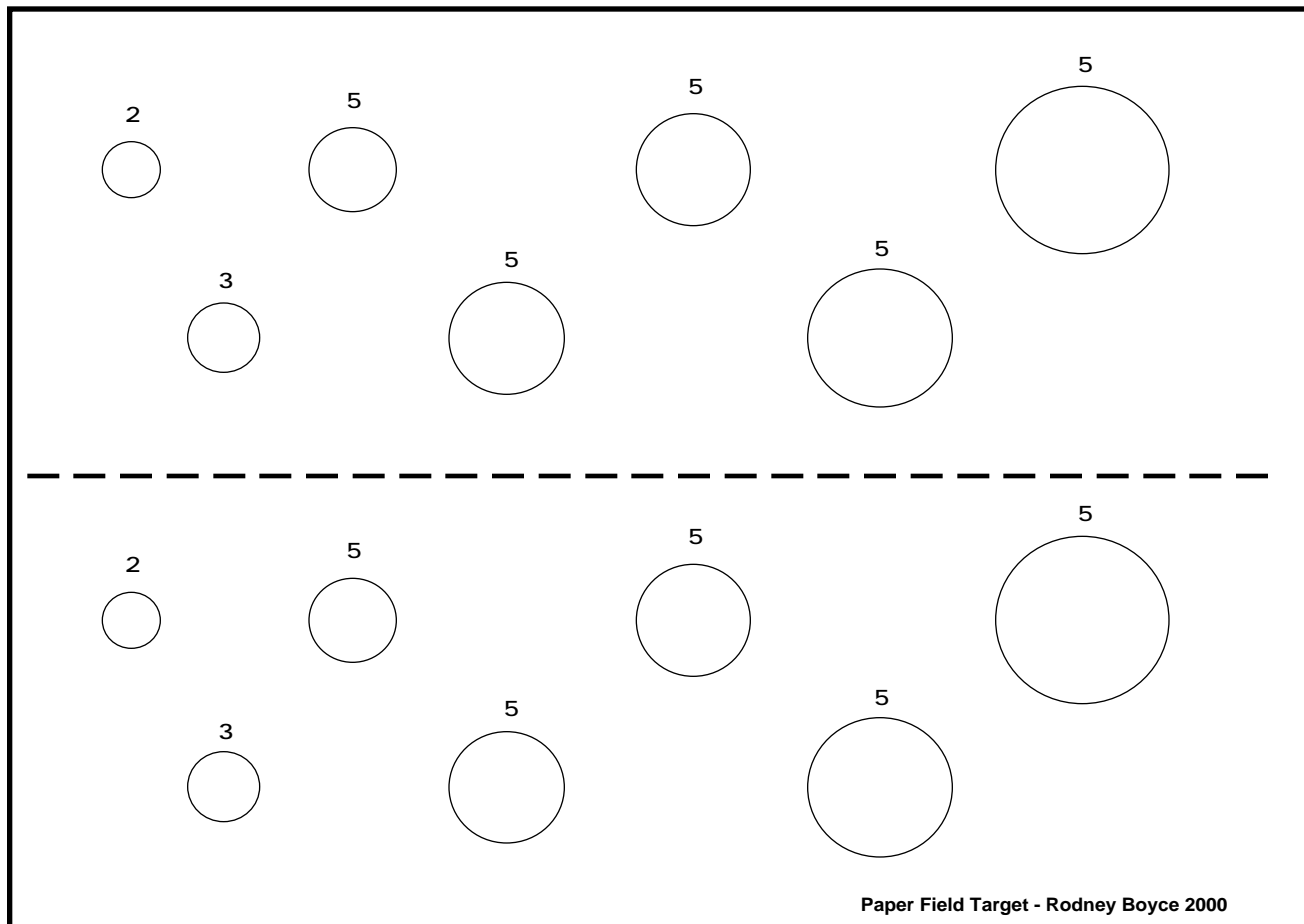
There must be a format that includes varying distances requiring precise range finding, varying KZ's, and last but not least, the pressure of competitive scoring.

A practice target (approx. 1/2 scale) that embodies these requirements is reproduced below. It is divided horizontally into two parts. Each half has 7 KZ's that are 1/2", 5/8", 3/4", 1" (2), 1-1/4", 1-1/2". The total number of shots at each half is 30, a perfect score. You take two shots at the 1/2" KZ, 3 shots at the 5/8" KZ and 5 shots at each of the remaining KZ's. At the top of each KZ the number of shots to be taken are indicated. A pellet that cuts the line is scored as a miss - duplicating a "split pellet" in a match. Preferably, two shooters per target is the way to go as it brings on competitive pressure. The "drill" is for the shooters to alternate walking out the target for placement at varying unknown distances.

I suggest scoring, dating, and keeping the targets for future reference. By the way, this especially applies if you are shooting alone, and in effect, competing against yourself.

- Rodney Boyce

P.S. Let me know if you would like for me to send you a couple of targets that you can get reproduced.



EFTCC @ DCPA

10-29-2000 Field Target Match Results

The Sight-In Lane opened at 8am as was scheduled. The forecast called for light snow flurries which apparently scared off a few of the shooters coming from long distances. Despite this we still had 2 shooters come from New Jersey, 1 from Pennsylvania, 2 from Connecticut, and one drive down from Albany. Our scheduled start time was delayed due to some late entries. Not wanting to turn any shooters away, the match started a little late at 10am. There was a consistent 3-5 mph breeze through out the day. The day started out bright and sunny in the morning and grew to overcast through out the match but we had no precipitation except for a few snowflakes to remind us it was winter. Most shooters seemed cold throughout the match and the hot cocoa we provided seemed very much appreciated. Since there were no leaves on the trees all targets seemed bright through the scope all day. We had our usual 10 lanes with three targets per lane. One lane was required all standing and another was a designated kneeling only. Shooters that could not physically kneel were able to shoot the lane Standing.

The targets were impossible to see from the seated position anyway. We heard mixed feelings about this lane, which will be a permanent kneeling lane at our match. There were 2 shoot-offs required. One for second and third spring gun, and the other for first and second Junior State Champion. Targets were repositioned for the shot-off, so no one shot at a target that they were familiar with. Results are as above. We also had a Special Bonus Lane with a Measured and Announced 75 yard Field Target. The Bonus Target was not part of the scoring for the field target match. Six of the Fourteen competitors entered our 75 Yard Club by knocking down the Target and earning a special certificate. The shooters who accomplished this great feat in the wind were ~ John Quiter, Jim Wilcox (who both got it shooting Off-Hand), John Way, Joe Harrison, Hans Apelles and Ray Apelles. After the awards were handed out many of the competitor's joined us for our traditional post match all you can eat dinner at a neighboring *Home Town Buffet*. Thank You to all for the assistance with the speedy cleanup.

10-29-2000 Field Target Match Results

New York State Open Champion

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
Ray Apelles	55/60	FWB P70FT	Nightforce 36FT	10.5 Premiers

New York State Spring Gun Champion

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
Bob Paulsen	36/60	TX200	Storey Custom 36	7.9 Premiers

Open Class

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
Joe Harrison	54/60	CRX	Nightforce 36FT	10.5 Premiers
Hans Apelles	47/60	NJR 100	Bushnell 8-32	10.5 Premiers
John Way	43/60	CRX	Burris 8-32	10.5 Premiers
Jim Heusinger	30/60	AA S300	Storey Custom 6-24	10.5 Premiers

Spring Gun Class

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
Bob Lachowski	28/60	TX200	6.5-20 Leupold	7.9 Premiers
Andrew Hernandez	28/60	HW97	B&L 6-24X40	7.9 Premiers
Ken Bissell	7/60	IZH 61	Bushnell 3 - 9 x 32	7.9 Premiers

Junior Class

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
Mike Bissell	4/60	IZH 61	Bushnell 3 - 9 x 32	7.9 Premiers
Thomas Hudek	4/60	IZH 61	Bushnell 3 - 9 x 32	7.9 Premiers
Joseph Heusinger	3/60	IZH 61	Bushnell 3 - 9 x 32	7.9 Premiers

Off-Hand (Standing) Class

<u>Name</u>	<u>Score</u>	<u>Gun</u>	<u>Optics</u>	<u>Pellet</u>
John Quiter	37/60	Whiscombe JW65 MKII	Tasco 8-40 SW	22cal Premiers
Jim Wilcox	33/60	R-9	B&L 6-24X40	7.9 Premiers

* Placing determined by shoot-off.

EFTCC - Eastern Field Target Competitor's Club

• Arnold Farm Shoot •

October 21, 2000

The sun was barely up when the shooting started ~ on the sight-in range at the (Bob) Arnold Farm on Maryland's Eastern Shore. The raucous squawking of huge V's of Canada geese filled the chill morning air as 15 shooters zeroed in on targets from 10 to 100 yards! Focus being given to the 75 yard mark, since it was announced that halfway through the Match there would be an extra lane (non-scoring) with a single 75 yard field target on it. Every competitor who knocked it down with either or both of his 2 shots would be awarded a special little certificate recognizing the feat ~ and become charter members of an elite 75 yard

club! - the membership list of which will be maintained by Ray Apelles.

The weather was perfect as we worked our way around the 11 lanes laid out in a horse-shoe shape in the October woods. The course was set up as a fun shoot - not preparation for the Nationals! - and the final scores reflect this fact. Two shooters tied for first place with perfect 60 scores and two tied for third place with 58s - these places being decided by a timed spinner target suspended on a threaded rod - shooting at the same time, the first one to spin the target all the way to his side of the rod (6 revolutions in either direction) won. Results:

1st place ~ Abe Diaz ~ 60
 2nd place ~ Joe Harrison ~ 60
 3rd place ~ Ray Apelles ~ 58
 4th place ~ Hans Apelles ~ 58

Other finishes were:

Open Class:

1st through 4th place as above
 Earl Brooks ~ 49
 Singson Tiu ~ 41

Piston Class:

Bob Arnold ~ 46
 Stan Lipinski ~ 45
 Mark Sivatko ~ 43
 Dale Benson ~ 32 (off-hand)
 Justin Castle ~ 32 (first match)
 Bill Weinreich ~ 28 (first match)
 Jim Wilcox ~ 26 (off-hand)
 Mike Tinsley ~ 26
 John Arnold ~ 15 (first match)

Note that of our 15 shooters 20% (3) were **first time field target competitors** ~ and they'll be back!

Perhaps a cliché voiced by one of the shooters while enjoying a great lunch (provided by Sarah Arnold, Margaret Vogel & Betty Brooks and included in the \$10 registration fee) sums up the day for all of us ~ he said, "It doesn't get any better than this!"

- *Earl Brooks*

Oh, and the 75 yard target ~ 4 shooters hit it: Hans Apelles 2X, Abe Diaz 2X, Dale Benson (Off Hand) 1X &... yours truly 2X ~ "...even a blind squirrel finds an acorn every once in a while." (:>)

Airgunners of Arizona

The 2000 Arizona State Airgun Field Target Championship

was held on Saturday, November 11 in the Superstition Mountains, east of Phoenix. This location has some of the most dramatic views in the Sonoran desert and is the point at which civilization begins to blend back into the pristine desert that existed before the railway connected Phoenix to Superior.

Course set up was accomplished on Friday morning during sporadic rain showers. Despite the rain, several club members came out to assist. Everyone did a great job of creating realistic shooting scenarios. The extra effort during set up was worth it because we only had 2 cold lines all day and none of the targets were eliminated from the competition. Hit zones varied from three 3/8" to two 1" zones. Yardages were from 11 to 48 yards with a large arroyo between the target and the shooting station. The arroyo made 30-yard targets appear to be 50 yards and 45-yard targets to be over 60 yards.

The club strategy was to set up 15 lanes with 4 shots per lane for a total of 64 shots. Participants would shoot the even lanes during the morning shoot and the remaining 32 shot on the odd lanes after lunch. This assured that every shooter faced roughly the same conditions of wind, weather, and lighting on every lane of fire. It quickly became evident that the targets on the odd lanes were more difficult than those on the even lanes, although neither odd nor even lanes would be easy.

Sight in began around 8:30. The sight in range was very damp, but the wind was nearly non-existent. The temperature was in the low 40s and would only increase by 20 degrees throughout the day under clear skies. The wind was less friendly than the temperature and began blowing shortly after the competition began, making for an interesting and educational day. Despite the wind, the weather was better than the hail and torrential down pour that we experienced during last year's state shoot near Flagstaff.

After shooting the even lanes most of the scores were clumped together, with the top 6 shooters in the open class and the 2 piston shooters only being separated by 2 points at the lunch break. Everyone found that the odd lanes were going to be even more difficult than anticipate during the early morning evaluation; however, most of the difficulty was due to the excellent meal that had been prepared. It's difficult to breath after eating so much and then trying to get into the sitting position to shoot.

Despite the close scores (only 4 points separated the top 5 shooters in the open class) only 1 shoot-off was required. The shoot-off target was on the practice range and was a 5/8" gopher set at 43 yards. Adam Singh won the coin toss and opted to shoot first, but failed to knock the target over. Larry Piercy had the same difficulty on his first shot but connected on his second. Adam's second shot also hit the mark but he missed on his third attempt. Larry sat down for his third attempt and was successful in connecting with the hit zone, winning the honor of third place in the state and second place in the Open class. After having settled the final competition placement issue, everyone was anxious to get to what they had been looking forward to all day.

The raffle this year was as exciting as ever and the trading continued long after the drawing was complete. Raffle prizes included a pre-charged rifle and a like-new vintage CO2 rifle, over 20 tins/ boxes of pellets, pellet pouches, bum bags, shirts, hats, Knock-Over field targets, and exploding targets. Many thanks to those who donated these prizes: Airguns of Arizona, Airgun Gear, Beeman, Daystate America, European Air Pistols, and Precision Sales.

Arizona shooters won the both classes. Custom trophies manufactured and donated by Daystate, UK, were awarded to the State Champions in the Open and Piston classes, places 1-3, High Lady, and High Junior. Airgunners of Arizona would like to thank the shooters who traveled such long distances from southern California and northern Colorado. We hope the drive was worth it, and that this shoot was both challenging and fun.

Congratulations and thanks to everyone!

The 2000 Arizona State Airgun Field Target Championship (continued)

2000 Open Class Arizona State Champion – Dale Keiser

2000 Piston Class Arizona State Champion – Greg Glover

2000 High Lady – Sandy Corcorran

2000 High Junior – Adam Singh

Open Class Results

<u>Total (64)</u>	<u>Shooter</u>		<u>Rifle/Caliber</u>	<u>Pellet</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>32/32</u>
59	Dale Keiser	AZ	CR-X / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	Burris 8-32X	29/30
58	Bobby Corcorran	AZ	Huntsman / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	B&L 32X	30/28
57	Larry Piercy *	AZ	CR-X / .20	Premier 14.3 gr	Hakko 8-32X	29/28
57	Adam Singh*	AZ	CR-97 SE / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	Hakko 8-32X	28/29
56	Sandy Corcorran	AZ	Pro-Target/.177	Premier 10.5 gr	B&L 6-24X	28/28
53	Robert Buchanan	AZ	CR-X / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	Hakko 30X	25/28
53	Steve Buchanan	AZ	CR-97 SE / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	B&L 6-24X	25/28
51	Debra Keiser	AZ	CR-97 SE / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	Burris 8-32X	29/22
50	Richard Shimuzu	CA	NJR 100 / .177	Premier 10.5 gr	NightForce 8-40X	23/27
39	Jon Barnes	CO	PH 6 / .22	Premier 14.3 gr	Tasco 8-40X	21/18
24	Robb Hand	CO	Air Arms / .177	Kodiak 10.5 gr	Weaver KT 15X	13/11

* Results after shoot-off

Spring Piston Class Results

<u>Total (64)</u>	<u>Shooter</u>		<u>Rifle/Caliber</u>	<u>Pellet</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>32/32</u>
46	Greg Glover	AZ	TX 200 / .177	Premier 7.9	Leupold 6.5-20X	22/24
43	Scott Rogers	AZ	TX 200 / .177	Premier 7.9	B&L 16X	20/23

OBSERVATIONS:

- You may have to sight in your rifle between rain showers, even in Arizona
- A 1" hit zone looks huge after shooting a 3/8" hit zones
- Geometric targets aren't all Happy Faces

DIFTA

FT Match - October 14, 2000

A beautiful, sunny day with temperatures starting out in the low 60s and warming up to mid 70s. An occasional slight cross-breeze made some long shots a bit tricky. Quite a few new shooters came, and with thirty

shooters we had squads of three on all ten lanes. This match was a little tougher than the past matches with a difficulty rating of just over 28 and had an average target distance of about 27 yards.

Here are the results for a 60 shot match held on October 14:

OFFHAND CLASS

Ray Apelles	FWB P70FT	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	411
Dale Benson	ProElite	Tasco SS 10	FT Trophy .177	232
Jim Wilcox	TX200SR	B&L 4200 6-24	CP7.9	232
Rob Klause	Harrier	Weaver KT-15	CP	DNF

OPEN CLASS

Abe Diaz	CR-97	Tasco CS 8-40	CP10.5	551
Joe Harrison	CR-X	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	542
Hans Apelles	NJR100	B&L 4200 8-32	CP10.5	513
JC Brown	ProTarget	B&L 4200 6-24	CP10.5	513
Steve Schulz	ZM2002	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	47
Sam Ventura	Harrier	Leupold 6.5-20	CP10.5	46
Earl Brooks	CR-97	Leupold 18-40	CP10.5	44
Tom Gaylord	Harrier	Tasco CS 8-40	CP10.5	43
Jack Maurer	S-300	BSA 6-24	CP	42
Werner Wicha	RN10Ti	Burriss 8-32	CP7.9	38
Nancy McDonald	Falcon LH .22	Simmons ProAir 4-12	CP14.3	36
Earl McDonald	Falcon FT	Burriss 8-32	CP10.5	32
Cole Harden	Harrier	Swift 6-24	FTS .177	26

PISTON CLASS

Rex Gori	TX200	Leupold 6.5-20	CP7.9	461
Bill Rush	TX200	Bushnell Elite 8-32	CP7.9	432
Al Otter	TX200SR	Leupold 25-50	CP7.9	423
Jim Piateski	R-9	Leupold 6.5-20	CP7.9	40
Phil Dean	TX200	Tasco CS 8-40	CP	34
Mark Sivatko	HW-97	Swift 6-24	CP7.9	29
Stan Lipinski	TX200SR	Leupold 6.5-20	CP7.9	26
Dennis McCoy	HW-97	Bushnell 4-12	CP	25
Ted Shaw	TX200	Leupold 6.5-20	Kodiak .177	25
Bob Arnold	ProElite	Simmons 6.5-20	CP	23
Singson Tiu	RWS 46	Bushnell 6-18	CP7.9	22
Karl Krchma	TX200	Bushnell 6-18	CP7.9	21
Frank Turner	HW-97C	Simmons 4-12	CP10.5	18

Maryland FT State Championship @ **DIFTA**

With the addition of two new lanes we now have twelve lanes to shoot, three targets each. Temperatures in the 50s and wind from the left at 20-25 mph made this match interesting. Throughout this longer course the wind was always present and made the long shots difficult, but because of the rather constant wind speed scores were still rather high.

Our off-hand shooters had an even tougher time than usual. Average difficulty was again a bit over 28 and the average target distance 29 yards. At the end we were treated to witness the shoot-off between Bill Rush and Stan Lipinski for second place in the piston class. Congratulations to Ray Apelles and Rex Gori!

November 11, 2000

For the State Championship the course was extended to 72 shots. These are the results:

OFFHAND CLASS

Dale Benson	R-9	B&L 6-24	CP7.9	29	1
Jim Wilcox	TX200SR	B&L 4200 6-24	Kodiak Match	19	2

OPEN CLASS

Maryland State Champion, Open Class

Ray Apelles	FWB P70FT	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	62	1
Joe Harrison	CR-X	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	61	2
Abe Diaz	CR-97	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	60	3
Hans Apelles	NJR100	Leupold 18-40	CP10.5	57	
Steve Schulz	ZM2002	Nightforce 36	CP10.5	56	
Earl Brooks	CR-97	Leupold 18-40	CP10.5	55	
JC Brown	ProTarget	B&L 4200 6-24	CP10.5	54	
Rick McAllister	CR-X	Burris 8-32	CP10.5	52	
Tom Gaylord	Harrier	Tasco CS 8-40	CP10.5	46	
Werner Wicha	CR-97se	Burris 8-32	CP10.5	46	
Erik Scott	Rapid 17	Tasco 5-20	CP7.9	43	
Sam Ventura	Harrier	Leupold 6.5-20	CP10.5	43	
Dave Goldfarb	ProTarget	Burris 8-32	CP10.5	42	
Mike Marino	Harrier	Tasco CS 8-40	CP10.5	39	

PISTON CLASS

Maryland State Champion, Piston Class

Rex Gori	TX200	Leupold 6.5-20	CP7.9	52	1
Bill Rush*	TX200	Bushnell Elite 8-32	CP7.9	42	2
Stan Lipinski*	TX200SR	Leupold 6.5-20	CP7.9	42	3
Al Otter	TX200SR	Leupold 25-50	CP7.9	40	
Mark Sivatko	HW-97	Swift 6-24	CP7.9	38	
Karl Krchma	TX200	Bushnell 6-18	CP7.9	32	
Frank Turner	HW-97C	BSA 36	CP7.9	31	
Robert Arnold	TX200	B&L 6-24	CP7.9	27	
Christian Scott	R-10	Bushnell 6-18	CP7.9	23	
Bill Weinreich	HW-97	BSA 8-32	CP	20	
Justin Castle	R-9	Bushnell Banner	.20	19	
Bill Gazdik	RX-1	Bushnell Trophy 4-12	FTS .22	10	

* placement decided by shoot-off

PRESSURE, PRESSURE?????????

One aspect of competition that is not fully realized is the effect on scores brought on by match pressure, especially big matches. The pressure is quite subtle; you don't have to be a nervous wreck for your score to deteriorate.

I think a classic example of the pressure effect occurred on the last day of the Worlds/Nationals 2000. At the conclusion of that day it was acknowledged undeniably that our National Champion was Ron Carlson. He also became World Champion with Andy Calpin (UK) one point behind. These two shooters are the Top Guns. At the end of two days of shooting Ron and Andy were tied with 90 points, a comfortable lead over Eric Moe, Steve Wheeler and Kurt Duch, with tied scores of 85.

However, on the last day of 50 shots the scores were Steve Franklin (UK) 48, Mark Catlin (MN) 47, Warren Williamson (OH) 47, Ray Apelles (NY) 46, Dale Monbriand (MN) 46, Hans Apelles (NY) 46, John Chopping (UK) 46, Mathew Knock (UK) 45, Bobby Corcorran (AZ) 45, Tim Finley (UK) 45, George Grim (UK) 45, Eric Moe (MI) 44, Steve Wheeler (TX) 44, Wade Sutherland (MS) 44, Kurt Duch (WI) 43, David Slade

(CA) 43, Dave Welham (UK) 43, Styllie Edwards (MS) 43. That's 18 shooters who, on that given day, out-shot the two best shooters in Field Target.

To compound this matter further, it can be pointed out that Ken Hughes (GA), James White (AZ), and Bob Winer (CA) tied Ron Carlson's score of 42.

Similarly, Abe Diaz (VA), Robert Crocker (SC), Chad Reno (IL), Don Carkhuff (IL), Dale Keiser (AZ), Stephan Shulz (MD) and the lovely lady Karin Sutherland (MS), tied the score of 41 posted by Numero Dos (Number Two to you Yankees). Brit shooter Andy Calpin.

My take on this is that Ron and Andy, going for the big marbles, pressured each other while the rest of the competitors, who were essentially out of the running, no longer had the little monkey on their backs, relaxed a bit and shot well.

Is there a way to overcome the effects of pressure? Let me know if you have an answer.

- Rodney Boyce

AAFTA Swap Shop

(Deadline for input to the newsletter is in the editor's hand by the 20th of the month!)

For Sale: Anschutz .177cal., Muzzle choked rifle barrels. Black oxide finish. .613 x 21.25 long. \$75.00 each plus shipping. Bob Holtz (716) 671-2866

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