

AAFTA News



American Airgun Field Target Association

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From the Editor

Hey All,

This issue is brought to you by WLOPA—or at least a good share of it! Those folks up in Connecticut are showing us all how to plan an event. They are really on top of things for an event that isn't taking place until October. With planning and effort like this, the 2006 AAFTA Nationals is sure to be a success. They are also showing the rest of us how to get more people involved in our sport—check out David Day's piece beginning on page 13.

The Board of Governors is working hard to finalize plans for electronic distribution of the News. Electronic distribution will begin in 2006. To overcome technical limitations of this editor's personal computer hardware and software, the Board has also approved the purchase of a computer and desktop publishing software for the production of the News. This equipment and software will be licensed to AAFTA and will reside with whomever is in the role of editor/publisher. I intend to continue in the role of editor/publisher through the end of 2006. At the end of '06, I'll have put in five years and the membership of AAFTA will probably be ready for a new voice. If grammar and spelling are your thing, consider volunteering for this position. Access to a computer and desktop publishing software is no longer a prerequisite.

Please send in your 2006 match schedules as soon as you can so I can get your match dates on the calendar—remember, Field Target matches only.

All the best to all of you in 2006!

Reminder: As we will be changing over to e-mail presentation of the AAFTA Newsletter, if you would like to receive your Newsletter electronically, please send your e-mail address to csmith57@tampabay.rr.com so we can begin to build the database needed. Thanks.

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AAFTA Member Clubs

□□□	Airgunning Atlanta: Atlanta GA Ken Hughes 770-445-0789 mbmedic@techie.com http://www.airgunningatlanta.com	NOCASA:	Northern California Airgun Shooters Association; San Francisco, CA Mike McKeown 707-253-8029 http://www.californiafieldtarget.com
BAC:	Bayou Airgun Club; Baton Rouge, LA Jack Kirkendoll 225-755-1715	OFTC:	Ozark Field Target Club; Berryville, AR Don Matzeder 870-423-4688 matzeder@direcpc.com
BAGA:	Badgerland Air Gun Association; Bristol, WI Alex Modic 262-895-7251 alex@bagaclub.com http://www.bagaclub.com	PEL:	Peltican Airgunners; Dade City, FL Don Vanderwerker 813-621-1509
BGAC:	Bluegrass Airgun Club; Lexington, KY Steve Cox 859-263-8378 coxclark@email.msn.com	TBA:	Tampa Bay Airgunners; Odessa, FL Cliff Smith 813-884-0507
CARS:	California Accurate Rifle Shooters; Long Beach, CA Bob Winer 562-430-9185 rlwiner@yahoo.com	TRRFCT:	Tacoma Rifle & Revolver Field Target Club Tacoma, WA Jim Benson alf911@webtv.net
CASA:	California Airgun Shooters Association; Los Angeles, CA Richard Shimizu 562-427-1403	TVA:	Tennessee Valley Airgunners; Huntsville, AL Brad Troyer 256-882-2811
CCRP	Capitol City Rifle & Pistol; Lacey, WA John Mickel 360-491-0714 jmickel@mail.tss.net	WFTC	Woodland Field Target Club; Woodland, WA Craig Taylor dibzter@aol.com
CTAC:	Central Texas Airgun Club; Dripping Springs, TX Leo Duran 512-288-9647 leo_duran@yahoo.com	WLOPA:	Wolcott Landowners Protective Association; Wolcott, CT David Day davidlday@yahoo.com
DIFTA:	Damascus Maryland Chapter of the Isaak Walton League of America Joe McDaniels mcdanieljr@earthlink.net Tim Berlett teber@earthlink.net	WSC:	Westfield Sportsman's Club; Westfield, MA Robb White RobbW@comcast.net http://members.cox.net/wsc.field_target/index.html
DJMC:	Delran Junior Marksman; Delran, NJ John Quiter 732-269-3303	WTF:	Wawarsing Targets of Field; Wawarsing, NY Billy Lo 845-496-9463 medbill@hvc.rr.com
EFTCC:	Eastern Field Target Competitor's Club Wappingers Falls, NY Ray Apelles 845-896-9792 http://www.bestweb.net/~ateamray	WWCCA:	Western Wayne County Conservation Association; Plymouth, MI Dan DelProposto 734-459-4685 delproposito@ameritech.net http://www.wvcca.com/clubs/air_gun.htm
GOB:	Good Ole Boys' 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 sirolmo@cableone.net	Associate Member Clubs	
MAFTA:	Minnesota Airgun Field Target Association Minneapolis/Saint Paul, MN Jay Olson-Goude 651-699-3048 jolson-goude@msn.com http://mafta.homestead.com	AOA:	Airgunners of Arizona; Mesa, AZ Robert Buchanan 480-461-1113
MCFG:	Marion County Fish & Game Association Indianapolis, IN Anthony Storey 317-925-5544	ARFTRCC	Air Rifle Field Target Riley Conservation Club; Terra Haute, IN Robert Hargis Jr. 812-466-7306
MSTS:	Mid South Tri-State Airgunners Association Memphis, TN Tom Itterly 901-872-0488	DAFTC:	Dominion Airgun Field Target Club; Harrisonburg, VA Frank Turner 540-271-2202
MSFTA:	Mountain State Field Target Association St. Albans, WV Rick McAllister 304-549-5409 rick.mcallister@att.net	OASA:	Ohio Airgun Shooters Association; Mansfield, OH Bruce Perathaner 419-756-7813
NGA:	North Georgia Airgunners; Jefferson, GA Greg Garner 706-367-1371 sponger64g@excite.com	WFTA:	Waterloo Field Target Association Waterloo, Ontario, Canada Hans Bormann 519-745-3244
NMAC:	Northern Mississippi Airgun Club; Hernando, MS Stylie Edwards 662-429-5794	CMPT:	Club Mexico de Tiro Pneumatico S. de R. L. Y C. V.; Mexico Hector J. Medina Hacienda De La Punta 129 Bosques De Echegaray Naucaalpa Edo. De Mexico 53310

2006 Match Schedule

January	February	March	April	May	June
	4-5: TBA/PEL 2005 Super Bowl / 2004 FL State Championship	4: CCRP 18: TRRFTC	2: WFTC 15: MAFTA, TRRFTC 22: DIFTA	6: CCRP 20: MAFTA, TRRFTC, DIFTA	4: WFTC 10-11: GOB—Good Ole Boy 2006 17: MAFTA, TRRFTC 18: DIFTA
July	August	September	October	November	December
1: CCRP 15: MAFTA, TRRFTC, DIFTA	6: WFTC 19: MAFTA, TRRFTC, DIFTA	1-3: TRRFTC NWFT Regional 9-10: DIFTA MD State Championship 16: MAFTA MN State Championship, TRRFTC WA State Championship	5-7: AAFTA US National Championship at WLOPA 14: MAFTA 21: TRRFTC 28: DIFTA	11: DIFTA	

Where to find it

FT Air Rifles

Airgun Express(HW, TX200)	800-896-4867
Airguns Alaska	907-522-5900
Airguns of Arizona (Daystate, Beeman)	480-461-1113
Beeman Precision Airguns (HW77 & 97)	800-227-2744
Benson Airgun Options	253-671-0177
Burroughs International (Career)	310-457-5932
Ken's Airsports (TX200)	419-837-6459
Mac-1 (USFT)	310-327-3581
Storey "Custom Shop"	317-925-5544
Straight Shooters	320-240-9062
Wade Sutherland (Falcon)	622-429-4663
W.W. Mann International	317-241-6011

Airgun Accessories

Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9138
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Ballistic Programs

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

Chronograph

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

Field Targets

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

After Hours Target Company www.FieldTargets.com	239-772-3588
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Gas Rams

Dave Slade's Airgunwerks	714-724-6169
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Pellets

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

Publications

AAFTA News and AAFTA Club & Shooters Handbook	813-884-0507
<u>Airgun Odyssey</u> by Steve Hanson	860-645-8776
Airgun Hobby Magazine	864-388-7943

Regulators

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

Repair & Tuning

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

Scope Knobs and/or Levels

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

Scope Mounts

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

Scope Wheels

Lake Precision Machine, Inc	lpm@lakepm.com
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Silhouette Targets

Precision Airgun Ltd.	562-430-9183
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Stocks

Wade Sutherland	662-429-4663
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Wind Flags

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

Airgun Videos

Pellethead	800-213-2088
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Awards and Trophies

Bob Zimmerman	713-680-1329
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**Pelican Airgunners
Dade City Gun Club**

**TAMPA
BAY
AIRGUNNERS**
AMERICAN LEGION POST 147
ODESSA, FLORIDA



host the
**2006 Super Bowl Field Target Match
and the 2005 Florida State Match**

*updated 12/18/05**

Dates: February 4th and 5th, 2006

Sites: * *NOTE CHANGE FROM PAST YEARS:* **Both** Saturday's and Sunday's match will be held at Tampa Bay Airgunners at American Legion Post 147.

Directions: Will be e-mailed or mailed to all pre-registrants

Rules: AAFTA rules and guidelines will apply. 20 fpe maximum.

Course of fire: Each match, 12 lanes, 2 targets per lane, 2 shots per target (48 shots)

Saturday match: Noon shooters' meeting

Sunday match: 9:00AM shooters' meeting

Divisions: Piston and Pre-charged

Awards: 1st through 5th in Piston; 1st through 6th in PCP

High Florida shooter in each division takes the Florida State trophy

Cost: \$25 includes Sunday BBQ lunch. After January 25th cost is \$35

Guest lunch is \$7.50

Our venue has limited space. 12 lanes is a squeeze. **36** shooters is max for comfortable shooting, but we will take up to **39** and use Ray Appelles' 'phantom' lane concept if we get more than 36 entries. The match is limited to 39 entries.

Need more information? csmith57@tampabay.rr.com or dvandewerker@tampabay.rr.com
(813)884-0507 (813)621-1509

Registration Form for the 2006 SuperBowl Match February 4th and 5th, 2006

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ E-mail _____

Rifle _____ Scope _____ Pellet _____ Division(Piston or PCP)

Make check payable to: Cliff Smith for \$25. (\$35 after 1/25/2006)

Mail to: Cliff Smith, 8725 Osage Dr., Tampa, FL 33634



20th Annual US Field Target Nationals
October 5, 6 & 7th 2006
Wolcott Landowners Protective Association
Wolcott, CT

Dear FT Shooters,

I'd like to take a moment of your time to let you all know planning for 2006 US Field Target Championships are well underway. We have some really fun, exciting and challenging events planned for your airgunning and gastric pleasures. These include a fun icebreaker match, known in these parts as The Daisy Red Ryder Shoot, to be held on sight in day October 5th. Time and awards yet to be announced, rest assured it will be something "Major" and maybe even from Fragile, Italy! The Nationals match will be a challenging yet fun shoot for all who attend. You better practice everything you've run into at an FT match before because odds are you'll see it at this one. An interesting event at this years Nationals besides the usual Open, Piston, High Senior, High Junior and High Female awards/classes will be the addition of a Hunter class—rules are posted on the WLOPA website. Winner of the Hunter Class event will not be awarded the National Hunter Class Champion, as AAFTA at this time only recognizes PCP and Spring Gun Champions. That being said, we will have awards for 1st through 5th place for this class. There seems to be quite a bit of International interest in this event so please be sure to get your entries in early so you don't get shut out, and save some money on air travel as well by booking early.

The cost of next year's match will be a steal at \$75 dollars per shooter. Your entry fee will include breakfast and lunch each day as well as a "PIG ROAST" on Saturday. Burgers and dogs will be available in between for those that just can't wait till lunchtime. You will also have access to free air on all ranges, every day, so no need to lug your scuba tank around—they will be waiting for you. A few fun side shoots with prizes and or 50/50 cash awards will be there for after the match and before. We will also be fortunate enough to have a demo and display of the Lewis and Clark Expedition rifles including a working replica of the Girandoni repeater. Mr. Ernie Cowan has graciously agreed to come up from southern PA and set up his NRA award winning display and to give demos of the air rifle in action. Who knows—a few of you might be lucky enough to get behind the trigger of it. Mr. Cowan is a very nice gentleman who was kind enough to offer his time and energy to come up and do this and we thank him greatly for it.

The food alone is worth the price of admission to this yearly airgunning Mecca. If the food spread out for this years Red Ryder shoot is anything like what we should expect at the Nationals we will all be going home with some extra baggage—and this was a kid's shoot!

One of my tasks as a “team leader” for next year's event (David Day's bestowed title) is soliciting vendors and manufacturers for donations. These include Airgun related products, store credit and even gunsmithing. Daystate has promised its continued support, Robert from AOA, Tim from Mac1 with \$500 Mac bucks store credit and I can go on and on since we have so many already. We are off to a good start to say the least! You can go to our website at <http://www.wlopa.com/wlopaair.htm> to check them out and please click on the sponsor's links—we ask you to support those who support us so generously! The outpouring of support for this event has really been heartwarming and I am sure it will only get better. I will be posting an update from time to time in the AAFTA News as new ideas and great donations come to fruition. Please check the website often as well. As a club goal, we are doing our best to make sure everyone that attends this year's event goes home with something off the prize table regardless of what their score or placement is and that we still have enough items donated by all AAFTA clubs and from vendors/manufacturers for a successful AAFTA raffle. The proceeds from the auction, besides being an immensely entertaining event with Brad Troyer and Dave Slade in all their glory, goes to fund AAFTA's operating costs for the following year. Hint to all the AAFTA clubs to please start thinking about your traditional donation to the AAFTA auction. I only half jokingly mention that because apparently some clubs never knew that was a tradition. So now everyone knows it and please be sure to tape your name as well as your clubs on your donated items so you get credit for it.

Without a doubt we will all be getting a lot for our Airgun shooting money. Besides coming up to New England at the nicest and prettiest time of the year, it's a great chance for you and your family to explore the area from Lake George in New York state to NYC as well as the New England Coastline. If there is enough interest I might even set up a bus trip to the Springfield Armory Museum on Thursday October 4th. If you might be interested in this please contact David or myself and I will look into it further.

As a means of keeping the costs of an event of this caliber down we will be having a few fundraisers. The first one I have come up with is 100 high quality, limited edition, solid brass and dark green enamel inlayed AAFTA belt buckles made right here in the good old USA. These will be numbered and only 100 will be offered for sale. They are in the mail to me as I write this so sorry no pictures yet. Price will be \$25 dollars each plus shipping and special numbered requests will be honored. Contact me for more info; see the club listings for my home club—Wawarsing Targets of Field Club or WTFC in the beginning of the AAFTA News. I have also made up 100 matching metal key fobs only these are done in an antique pewter finish. These will be sold for \$6 each and will not be numbered. Last but not least I made up the bumper sticker pictured below as an additional means of spreading the word about FT and the Nationals. These are only \$1 plus a SASE addressed to me.



Air Rifle Field Target Nationals

www.WLOPA.com

Now for the big news: Steyr Mannlicher was kind and generous enough to offer us a new Steyr LG-100 HP at a great price for this year's event. If that wasn't good enough, Alan Zasadny is donating over 35+ man hours worth of his magical work into making this rifle a ZM LG-100 HP. This rifle will be raffled off with a very limited number of tickets being offered for sale at a price of \$25 dollars per ticket, available to anyone residing where it is legal to own. That's a heck of a good deal and the money donated is going to a good cause: making the 20th annual US Field Target Championships one to be remembered for a LONG TIME. Fine details on the above to be worked out yet but I just couldn't keep the secret in any longer. Just too darned exciting. There might even be a better deal on the tickets for those that register early. We have yet to iron that out so stay tuned to upcoming issues of the AAFTA News. If you're not an associate member yet, get on board will ya!

Also in this month's newsletter I've included a Nationals flyer that is both a promo for the Nationals as well as an intro into FT. Please feel free to copy it and ask your local gunshop, sporting goods store, paintball shop, etc., if you can leave a short stack on their display case to drum up some interest in our game. You might be surprised how receptive storeowners might be. Please be sure to check in from time to time and bring new ones. You might want to bring in a field target too to show them first hand what we are talking about. I think a national push like this might be just what we need and it would give a new shooter the time needed to get him or herself confident enough to come on up shoot at the 2006 Nationals or a local large regional event. Who knows where the next National Champions might come from? I am also including a copy of the official Nationals entry form. Please fill them out and get them in early.

Last but not least, should anyone not have internet access please contact me and I will print out everything from the website for you to help you out. I am only an email or phone call away; I'm open to all suggestions and I am here to help.

Looking forward to seeing you all again soon and I promise to give 110% to making the 20th Annual US Field Target Championships in 2006 a match to remember! We have a great bunch of folks working on it and we'll get it done!

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays to everyone,

Billy Lo

REGISTRATION FORM

Competitor:

Last name: _____ First name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ email: _____

Emergency contact name: _____ Phone #: _____

Class of competition: Circle ONE only

OPEN

PISTON

HUNTER

STANDING

Note: If you select standing class and there are less than 20 registrants in that class, all standing class registrants will be re-classified to OPEN, PISTON, or HUNTER. What is your second choice for class of competition?

_____.

Are you a senior (> 64 years old)? **YES** **NO**

Are you a junior (<18 years old)? **YES** **NO**

Have you previously participated in a field target match at the state, regional or national level? **YES** **NO**

Airgun you will use: _____ **Scope:** _____

Pellet: _____ **Velocity:** _____ **fps**

WLOPA limits airguns to 20 ft-lb or less pellet energy at the muzzle. Challenges to targets not falling with airguns having an initial muzzle velocity of less than 750 fps will not be considered.

Please circle each complimentary meal that you will take at WLOPA and indicate the number of additional guest meals required, guest meals would be an additional \$10.00 each.

October 7: **Breakfast** **Lunch** October 8: **Breakfast** **Lunch**

If you have any dietary restrictions, please specify:

Free air will be provided to all competitors. Bring your own fill adapters.

Refunds will only be provided for registrants who cannot attend due to family, illness, or work-related issues. Refunds will not be provided to registrants because of match rule application or any circumstance associated with conduct of the event.

Fees:		Total
Match registration	\$ 75 – before Sept 1 \$100 – after Sept 1	\$ _____
Bob Zimmerman Signed Commemorative pellet box	\$15	\$ _____
Total enclosed		\$ _____

Do not send cash. Please make check payable to **David Day** and return to:

David Day
1102 N Benson Road
Fairfield, CT 06824

Upon receipt and processing of this form a welcome packet will be sent to the above address.

20th Annual American Airgun Field Target Association US Field Target National Championships



Hosted by the
Wolcott Landowners Protective Association
Wolcott, Connecticut
5 miles East of Waterbury

October 6-8, 2006

Field target is a shooting sport where reactive silhouette targets, typically representing small airgun quarry, are shot from distances ranging 10 to 55 yards for score. The target's distances are not marked and their "hit zones" are of unknown sizes ranging from $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $1\frac{3}{4}$ ". The sport is played in a natural woodland setting reminiscent of a trail walk, with narrow shooting lanes cut into the woodlands. The targets are often placed in trees, brush, or other natural settings to increase the challenge and simulation for the competitors. Only lead pellets are used as ammunition for safety reasons when engaging the metal field targets and odds are the rifles you will see being used are not the BB guns you remember shooting in your youth.

There are many field target clubs across the United States as well as Europe and Asia. Representatives from many of these nations will be sending some of their top competitors to this National Championship to share in the fellowship and take a crack at bringing home the championship. Field Target is very strong in its promotion of both the competitive side and social side of shooting. Every match welcomes the most seasoned veterans and embraces the wide-eyed newcomers.

Registration is only \$75.00 for three days of shooting fun!

Additional fun shooting activities and FREE meals will be included for paid registrants only. Additional per meal fees for non-registered family members will apply. There will be something for everyone interested in airgunning. Won't you join us?

To learn more about this fun yet challenging family and friends oriented shooting sport, and opportunities available to participate in your local area, please visit:

<http://www.aafta.org>

For more US Field Target National Championships information please visit:

MASSACHUSETTS STATE FT CHAMPIONSHIPS
WESTFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
NOVEMBER 20th 2005

It was cold. No snow, but it was cold and the ground had that white sheen on it that says 'stay in bed'. However, a few hardy souls arrived and the results of their endeavors are listed below. Next year the State Championships will be held in August to ensure a more pleasant environment.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCORE/50</u>	<u>GUN</u>	<u>SCOPE</u>	<u>PELLET</u>
OPEN				
BILLY LO	48	USFT	NIKKO10-50X	CPH/910
PAUL BISHOP	43	FWB P70	TASCO8-40X	CPH/900
HANS APELLES	41	NJR 100	ELITE 8-32X	CPH/915
FRED BINGHAM	39	WALTHER DOM	ELITE 8-32X	CPH/840
GEORGE BLASS	39	DAYSTATE Mk.3	NIKKO 10-50X	JSB/880
JOE DENNIS	37	USFT	BSA 10-50X	CPH/905
DEREK TURNDAHL(Jr)	20	AA S200B	ELITE 8-32X	CPL/885
PISTON				
RAY APELLES	35	TX200SR	NIGHTFORCE 36	JSB/815
DAVID BINGHAM	25	TX200	ELITE 8-32X	FTS/825
HUNTER				
BRIAN JOHNSON H&N/790	37	AA S410	.22 TASCO 3-9X	
RICH TYNDALL	31	AA S400ERB	LEAPERS 4-16X	JSB/930
BRIAN WILLIAMS	27	TX200	TROPHY 9-12X	?
MICHAEL FLICKMAN	24	R-9 .20	44 MAG 6-20X	FTS/790
JOHN WAY	22	TX200	?	?
EVE STURDEVANT	13	AA S200	FM 4-12X	JSB/800

WESTFIELD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB
FIRST INDOOR/OUTDOOR
MATCH FOR THIS WINTER
DECEMBER 4th 2005

It was cold and it was snowing, but one expects that in New England at this time of year, so by 7.45AM the range was ready for the 40 shot event. The targets were all set and were functioning in spite of the snow buildup. Inside, the shooting space was a pleasant 60+, the coffee was hot and the doughnuts, fresh. All was set for the arrival of those stalwart folks so accustomed to this weather.

Ha, Ha, Ha. Boy, is that a myth.

We were forced to eat too many doughnuts and drink too much coffee. All on our lonesome. On the way home to CT later that morning I only observed four instances of autos which had left the highway to wrap around trees. I only witnessed two Ambulances with sirens screaming. Our local marksmen clearly do not have that dedicated drive to compete. That drive which ignores such minor problems as commut-

TVA at GOB 10/15/05

Class	Name	Score/60	Rifle
PCP	Kevin Allen	56	USFT
	Rick Thompson	40	P-70
	*Harold Rushton	25	AF/Talon
PISTON	Brad Troyer	49	HW97
	Roz Sumpter	48	JW50
	Ken Hughes	44	TX200
	Jim Geddes	21	TX200
	Donny Ross	20	JW50
	*Matt Rushton	2	BSA
	*Steve Torbert	2	BSA

*-New Shooter

I'd like to thank those who showed up for our monthly TVA match, with a twist. The twist being that it was held at the G.O.B. venue in Pulaski, TN rather than our Huntsville, AL suburb.

We were rewarded with beautiful, clear sky and temperature in the mid 70's. Unfortunately there was just enough unpredictable wind lurking the shooting lanes to disrupt what should have been some straight forward shots. That in conjunction with several awkward uphill lanes served to drop the scores lower than I had predicted.

The course had been set with a difficulty level that would prepare one for the upcoming championship at NMAC in Hernando, MS. Therefore it was definitely not for beginners. A glance at the scores of our three freshman shooters will bear that out.

Regardless of the scores, we had a very pleasant day of shooting and good fellowship. Afterwards we wrapped things up with Subway sandwiches and other refreshments before disbanding for our respective destinations.

I'd like to give special thanks to Kevin Allen and Ken Hughes for helping me with final preparations the morning of the match. Such eagerness to assist exemplifies the character of many of our Field Target brothers.

Roz

First-Time Shooters at a Field Target Match

October 28, 2006

Recently, WLOPA conducted a first-time shooter field target match as part of the Step Outside program sponsored by the National Shooting Sports Foundation. The invitees for the program were members of a clinical team from a major pharmaceutical manufacturer in Connecticut. In addition to no prior experience in field target competition, many members of the group were totally new to rifle shooting.

Before the event took place, we arranged to have a certified NRA firearms safety instructor conduct a class with the group on the basics of firearms safety. Additionally, experienced field target shooters from WLOPA and nearby Westfield Sportsman's Club were solicited for assistance as squad instructors. This allowed for squads of three shooters with one FT experienced shooter on each squad to monitor safety and provide firing line guidance on techniques used to be successful at field target shooting.

Participant Comments

New Shooter Steve W...
'This is terrific fun'

New Shooter Maria C...
'This is something I really want to take up as soon as I get out of school'

New Shooter Kathy H.....
'My husband is going to be so jealous that I am getting the chance to do this while he is at home with the kids'

New Shooter Angee M...
'This is too cool... I learned a lot about guns today and I am going to do this again.
Can you put me in touch with the St. Louis airgun club?'

Jon V...
'I have shot before, but this certainly takes a lot more skill than I thought it would'

Mike B...
'There is nothing better than spending a day outside doing this'

New Shooter Ambi A...
'Can I try that one again... I want to knock every one down'

Rich D...
'I am definitely getting my son one of these (airguns)'

Maria C...
'I hit it! I can't believe I hit it! This is Great'

Kerri-Ann... 'Everyone ought to have one of these guns to shoot!'

In addition to safety orientation, each member of the group was given an opportunity at the hotel training site to handle the airguns as well as learn how to appropriately assume a position that would allow a full field of view through a rifle scope. From past experience, new shooters have a difficult time with eye position relative to the scope, and this group proved to be no exception, so this first step after proper safety instruction proved to be a valuable one prior to actual firing practice.

A skunk field target with a 2" kill zone was placed 30 yards from a picnic table at the WLOPA facility so that each member of the group could gain an initial taste of success. As the participants arrived at the event, they were given an opportunity to first shoot this 'generous' field target from a bench rest position. As each participant took their turn in shooting the field target, anticipation began to build for a successful day of FT shooting. Once all new participants had an opportunity to knock down the target, then we proceeded to the sight-in range and placed the shooters in pre-assigned squads with their match squad instructors.

Here an interesting benefit of teaching multiple new shooters using field target as a first experience was revealed. Because airguns are so quiet relative to regular firearms, this promoted a lot of dialog between the new shooters and their assigned match coaches. For about an hour there was the constant sound of 15 people exchanging a lot of information on safety, shooting positions, trigger control etc as the match hour approached.

In designing the match, the course was purposely kept simple and short. The match consisted of 32 shots at 16 targets with an overall Troyer difficulty level of 19

(easy). All but three of the targets were less than 20 Troyer in difficulty to assure that everyone would knock down several targets. However, three targets were placed that could challenge shooters with moderate to advanced shooting skills to give everyone a feel for what difficulty level could be expected in a more competitive match. In doing this, another interesting behavior was observed. After the match was over, almost all of the shooters lined up to take practice shots at the most difficult target on

the course that is appropriately named Psycho Bunny. In addition to the unusual distracting paint scheme of the target, the very small kill zone was concealed by the paint pattern. This target was placed on the same lane as another target with a 1.75" KZ to gain contrast in shooting difficulty between easy and hard targets. Hence the name Psycho Bunny....not because the target is crazy....but because the target is psychologically challenging to even the best shooters when placed right after an extremely easy target in the course of fire.

Also, instead of conducting the match so that everyone competed against everyone else, each squad was competing against the other squads in the match. This resulted in a lot of encouragement between squad members as well as engagement of the trainers in the success of their team. At times, the cheers with downed targets sounded almost like spectators at a football game!

Although the day was cold and a bit windy, by the time the match began, nobody seemed to notice, or at least, nobody was complaining about the weather. The sounds of pellets hitting targets followed by targets falling and people cheering for one another told almost the entire story.....a successful introduction of a group of new shooters to the sport of field target.

After the match was over, the plan was to go to a really good local Italian Restaurant, treat our trainers to a good thank you meal, and let the bragging and excuses flow freely which they certainly did! However, our exit to the restaurant was delayed by one small detail.....everyone wanted to go back to the line of fire and shoot Psycho Bunny just one more time....well that is a bit of an understatement....it was actually about a tin of pellets that went downrange to this unfortunate field target before the setting sun finally called an end to a fine day.

Later on while analyzing the shooter scores, it was discovered that the women shooters, as a group, significantly outperformed the new male shooters.....Enough said about that!!!!

What a fun and rewarding day this was! Well - rewarding for all but the targets that we had to carry away for a few cosmetic procedures!!!!

For the original article with a lot more photos, go to: http://www.wlopa.com/clinical_shoot.htm



On the sight-in and practice range



The first time shooters and their trainers.

Target Variety

The furthest target from the firing line was a 1 1/2" squirrel at 43 yards

A green frog sitting in a pool of water provided a really terrific splash effect.

Bunny in a barrel made an interesting reverberating sound when hit.

A tree target provided new shooters with an opportunity to experience some 'uphill' shooting.

Waterloo Field Target Club

Christmas Fun Match December 4, 2005

By Tim M^{ac}Sweyn

Fourteen shooters showed up for our Christmas match and had a great time. The temperature stayed between 25 and 28 degrees and light snow showers propelled by a steady breeze provided the wind meter for holdover information.

We swept the snow off the platforms and twelve of the fourteen took part in the outdoor, field target portion of the match. The outdoor match consisted of thirty shots on fifteen targets, with a range from 7 to 70 in difficulty.

The indoor match consisted of five events, including bench shooting of stationary and moving targets and some offhand shots, all set between 18 and 20 yards. Five very small plastic soldiers were set up at 18 yards for some mini sniping. Chalk was set up, ten in a row with about a half to three quarters of an inch sticking up out of holes in an angle iron and they were dusted from the bench. Moving targets consisted of nine pieces of chalk rotating and coming above the wall for a brief time as they hit the top of the arc. You had to pick them off on the move and got ten shots to clear the nine pieces of chalk, with a bonus point if you only used nine shots. The offhand shooting consisted of five shots at a paper target at 20 yards, scoring two points for a hit in the inner circle and one for a hit within the outer circle. The newest event was created by Bert using a vacuum cleaner to provide the lift for a Styrofoam ball floating and bouncing in the air. You had up to five shots to hit it and scored five points for a hit on the first shot, but you lost a point for every extra shot it took to hit it.

We had lunch at 1:00 PM and finished up the shooting events at about 3:00. Anyone who brought a gift chose a gift from under the tree. Field targets made by Hans were presented to the guys who attended at least five of the six matches during the season and spinners were presented to the next three who attended the most matches. Pocket knives were presented as a bonus to the three people who had perfect attendance during the season.

The results below have shooters listed alphabetically, as we did not declare any winners, since it was just for a fun get-together before the winter break. Thanks to everyone who participated in this match and all of the matches this season. I'm looking forward to another great season next year.

Shooter	Gun	Sniper /5	Chalk /10	Chalk M /10	Offhand /10	Floating Ball /5	Field T /30
Hans Bormann	HW100	5	9	5	3	5	DNP
Dennis Eden	CR97SE	5	10	3	8	5	24
Mike Ferrara	NJR100	5	10	8	9	5	26
Bert Habicher	AA s300	5	9	6	2	4	22
George Harde	Slavia/HW97	5	6	7	1	5	18
Zack Harde	Diana 46	3	8	3	1	5	17
Magdy Hassouna	Steyr FT	5	10	7	5	5	16
Don Irvine	Steyr FT	5	10	5	5	5	26
James Jackson	HW97K	5	9	7	1	5	20
Josh Jackson	HW97K	5	8	6	3	5	20
Tim MacSweyn	Ld/SS 04	5	10	10	7	5	30
Danny Reginato	AA300s	5	9	6	3	5	DNP
Mark Priebe	?	1	1	0	2	1	8
Franz Tschogl*	Slavia	1	1	1	2	1	7

AAFTA Associate Member Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zipcode: _____

Telephone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

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

Make Check payable to:

AAFTA

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

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

The AAFTA news is published 9 times per year. 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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