

Airgunners of Arizona FT Report

June 6, 2009 – Mormon Lake, AZ

You ever get the feeling that you need to check the calendar to make sure what time of year it is? This is supposed to be June, but it felt more like February or March (for Arizona). It was cool, with the temperature in the mid 60's, and with a lot of cloud cover. It looked like rain, and in fact we did get spritzed on a bit later in the day. The biggest factor was the wind! 25 to 35 mph and gusting and swirling and coming from all directions. LD would have loved it; it was a great day to shoot field target. Thank goodness I brought along a sweatshirt!

We were one mile north of the upper access road to Mormon Lake, milepost 325 on Lake Mary Road, right next to the gravel pit that is known as Perry Lake pit. It is near enough to Mormon Lake to use that as the location. This area is covered in pines, but is still quite open; only having patches of undergrowth and scrub oak here and there, and is fairly flat. The ground is covered with tall grasses and a lot of ancient volcanic rock along with the carcasses of trees that have fallen over in the past. There are large meadows next to thick stands of trees, and the area is prime elk territory.

We had 19 shooters here this month, and the participation at the matches is growing. Among the notable regulars that were missed was Ray Hornemann, who has been under the weather for several weeks. A quick phone call to him today finds him feeling better, but still having difficulty catching his breath. Mary Ann McLeod had to work...reluctantly. Jim Russell is playing Mr. Mom with his 7 month old little Miss Paige who is teething. We stopped in on him on the drive home from the match just to let him know we were thinking of him.

We do have the ladies back with us! Robin Montgomery is healed up and shooting like a house on fire with her new USFT! Also Bonni Jo Drye has returned with her laughter and bubbly spirit. Bonni Jo and Ron brought along their grandsons, Ty and Dillon, also. Even Guy Zamudio managed to get a day off of work to join us. More on him later. First time FT shooter Dan Jones was finally able to attend a match. His work schedule is almost as bad as Guys.

As soon as the targets arrived, everyone got busy helping to set up the practice range and site the shooting lanes, set up targets, pull strings, take registration and assign shooting partners. We even had the opportunity to shoot on the newly purchased Rhino targets that are a result of the Daystate Huntsman classic rifle raffle. Those things are neat!

At our shooters meeting, after going over safety rules and the specifics for shooting at this venue, which is by permit from the national forest, it was mentioned that there were no forced position shots (standing, kneeling, etc.). A suggestion was made that there could easily be standing shots included. This was followed by a noise that hurts your ears and makes the small hairs on the back of your neck stand up. The kind of noise that you hear when cats are fighting. The kind of noise that comes simultaneously from 2 women with high pitched voices, who will remain nameless, that startle you when they screech, "NOOOOOOOoooooo!" We were so shocked by that sudden outburst that no one dared to debate it. Needless to say, we didn't have any forced position shots. We need to pre-plan a little better in the future. LOL.

We had 10 lanes with 2 targets per lane for a 40 shot match. I was paired with Robin Montgomery and Bobby Corcorran, and we had a great time. The lanes were spread far enough apart that a short walk was needed to get from one to the other, but all were in sight of one another, and each varied a little bit. Using a lot of the natural terrain features, and fallen trees makes for interesting target placements.

You would think that with that much wind and small kill zones that the scores would be down. Not necessarily the case. Seems that we have a new Sheriff in town as far as the match winner is concerned, too. Guy just bought a new gun this past Monday. He finally had a chance to sight in on Friday and decided to shoot this gun to "see what it would do". He brought his other gun as a backup, just in case. He never needed it! He blistered the

course, shooting a 37 out of 40 and turning everyone's head. He was unconscious! He said afterwards that he didn't shoot that score; the gun shot itself. I think he was as amazed as the rest of us. Good Job, Guy!

We had a tie for first place and got to use 2 of the new targets as the shoot off target. These are circular targets with different sized holes in them; ¼", ½", ¾", 1", and 1-1/4". The shoot off is set up with the targets side by side, and the shooters side by side, and shooting head to head.

Debbie Keiser and Steve Montgomery were tied with a score of 36. They set up on the line at the practice range and everyone else set up a gallery behind them to watch the drama unfold. Debbie prevailed with nothing but ice water running through her veins.

Here are the scores and placements:

Place	Shooter	Score / 40	Class	Gun Mfgr/Model	Scope/Power	Pellet/Wt
Match Winner	Guy Zamudio	37	PCP	Daystate CRX-st	Bushnell 8-32	CP 10.5
1	Debbie Keiser	36	PCP	Daystate CR97SE	Burriss 8-32	CP 10.5
2	Steve Montgomery	36	PCP	USFT	Nikko 45	CP 10.5
3	Larry Nelson	35	PCP	Steyr LG-110	Hawk 8-32	JSB 10.3
4	Dale Keiser	34	PCP	Daystate CRX	Burriss 8-32	CP 10.5
4	Bobby Corcoran	34	PCP	Theoben Rapid	Bushnell 6-24	CP 10.5
6	Scott Rodgers	33	PCP	USFT	Nikko 50	JSB 10.3
7	Robin Montgomery	32	PCP	USFT	Nikko 10-50	CP 10.5
8	Larry Piercy	29	PCP	Daystate LR90	B&L 4200 8-32	CP 10.5
8	Ty Coglianese	29	PCP	Daystate Huntsman	Centerpoint 8-32	JSB 10.3
8	Ron Drye	29	PCP	Daystate Huntsman	Centerpoint 8-32	JSB 10.3
11	Mark Kauffman	28	PCP	Daystate CRX-st	Bushnell 6-24	JSB 8.44
12	Constance Alfaro	26	PCP	Daystate MK 3	Bushnell 6-24	JSB 10.3
13	Hector Alfaro	25	PCP	Daystate FTR	Leupold 36	JSB 10.3
14	Dan Jones	21	PCP	Airforce Talon	Nikko 24	CP 10.5
15	Dillon Coglianese	19	PCP	Daystate MK 3	Centerpoint 8-32	JSB 10.3
16	Kerry Boehmer	18	PCP	Daystate MVT Airwolf	Hawk 6-24	JSB 14.3
16	Ric Grassmick	18	PCP	BSA Ultra	Bushnell 6-24	CP 7.9
18	Bonni Drye	17	PCP	Daystate MK 3	Centerpoint 8-32	JSB 10.3

After the awards, we had the drawing for the Daystate Huntsman Classic air rifle. All 200 tickets were sold, over the past several months, to club members, family and friends, and members of various airgun forums. The response and interest was tremendous and we gained several new club members because of this event. After the tickets were duly shaken, stirred, thoroughly mixed, Kerry Boehmer's daughter pulled the winning number. Number 598605 was one of a bunch of tickets that was purchased by Scott Jones, who borrowed an air rifle to shoot in previous matches.

After a phone call was placed, and he assured himself that it was not a sales solicitation call, he was shocked, surprised, elated, excited, etc, etc, etc, that he actually won! Arrangements were made and the gun delivered to him later that day. He no longer has an excuse not to attend future matches.

We will be shooting at this venue on the 3rd Saturday of both July and August, so you can mark your calendars. The state championship will be here also on the 3rd weekend of September, and I am gathering information on lodging and meals at Mormon Lake Lodge, just down road. More information is available at: www.mormonlakelodge.com. Mention Airgunners of Arizona to Tamara Hayden, Lodging Manager, so that she can arrange for anyone staying there to be grouped together. Over the next month or so, I will have more information put together and posted on the various forums and via email. If you want me to send out information to you, when it becomes finalized, please send me an email with that request.

Until next month, practice, practice, practice.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Kauffman

Secretary / Airgunners of Arizona

Page Last updated 08/02/2012 09:34:32