

MORE WOMEN COACHES | ALL-AMERICAN AWARDS | GUNS OF THE 1920s

FEBRUARY 2015 | VOL. 28 NO. 2

Shooting SPORTS USA

NRA'S COMPETITIVE SHOOTING JOURNAL



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FIRST AND FOREMOST,

I cannot start this letter without thanking the former Managing Editor, Chip Lohman, for the wonderful work done with *Shooting Sports USA*. Chip has been completely devoted to the magazine, has made a tremendous effort in expanding readership, and has always been open to introducing and implementing novel ideas in order to improve the quality of *SSUSA* – and not to mention his endless support with me as I step into his old shoes. It's a huge challenge to follow a dedicated person like Chip, but I feel extremely proud and excited to be taking over.

As the new Managing Editor of *SSUSA*, I will be attending as many matches as possible, and while covering each event I will aim to keep an emphasis on the grassroots culture of competitive shooting. I am taking this approach because the NRA is interested in hearing the opinions of all competitors whether they have been competing for 30 years, or if they will be shooting at their very first match.

SSUSA will continue to be the #1 source of information for competitive shooters. BUT, there is a catch ... we need you!

SSUSA is constantly looking for competitive shooters with a passion for journalism, writing, and especially, photography and videography to help document events and competitions. We have some interesting projects and ideas for 2015, but we need your help. If you are interested, please do not hesitate to email shootingsportsusa@nrahq.org for more information!

Meanwhile, I hope you enjoy reading the amazing stories and articles from *Shooting Sports USA* just as much as I do. Please encourage your friends and family to subscribe if they have not already.

See you on the range.

John Parker

Managing Editor, *Shooting Sports USA*



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Book Review

Gabriela Franco is the subject of this month's Bag Check column, as well as the review of her 2013 book on pistol shooting techniques. As an Olympic and USPSA competitor, a participant on History Channel's TOP SHOT, and an active trainer, "Gabby" has a lot to share.

By Chip Lohman

22

More Women Coaches

Minnesotan Sally Stevens has gone from beginner to Level II Shotgun Coach and sees a need for more women coaches to join her ranks. Rather than wait for the natural evolution of new shooter to competitor to coach, Stevens believes we can jump start the program in the same manner as she learned how to coach.

By Sally Stevens

24

NRA-All American Program

Created in 1936, NRA's All-American program recognizes the best-of-the-best collegiate competitors. Beginning this year, *Shooting Sports USA* will report annually on each year's inductees into the All-American program.

By NRA Staff

ON THE COVER

The first 60 years of the All-American Awards program is documented in the 336-page book *NRA All-Americans: A Commemorative 1936 – 1998*.

Photograph by Lloyd Hill



▲ NRA All-American, Lanny Bassham, was a force to reckon with in collegiate rifle competitions in the late 1960s. Bassham went onto win the Gold Medal for 3-Position Smallbore at the 1976 Olympics.

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Executive Vice President

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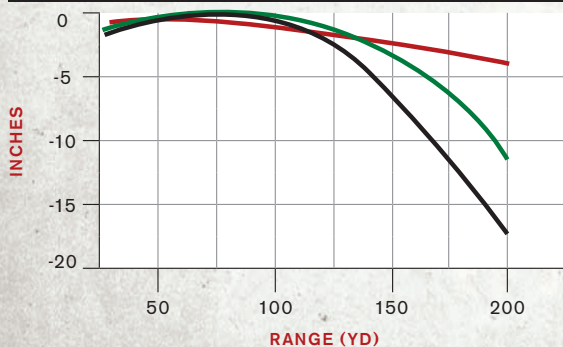
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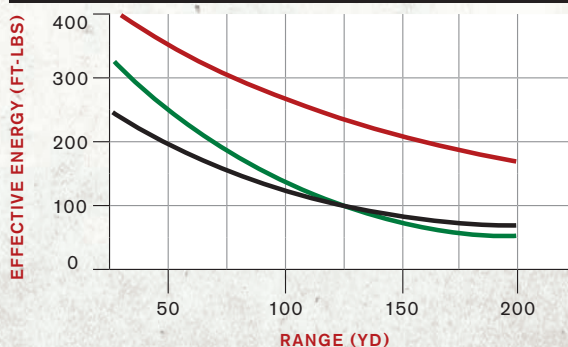
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U.S. International Shooting in the 1920s

Nordquist, a National Champion and All-American in his own right, chronicles the early years when the U.S. Rifle Team's domination with the '03 Springfield rifle waned, and then returned when we adopted the Martini marquee.

By Paul Nordquist

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Your new Managing Editor – John Parker.

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Highlights from the world of competitive shooting sports.

11 Bag Check

A mini-series by Barbara Baird, *Women's Outdoor News*, on tips about what the pros take to the firing line in their range bag.

16 Score Sheets

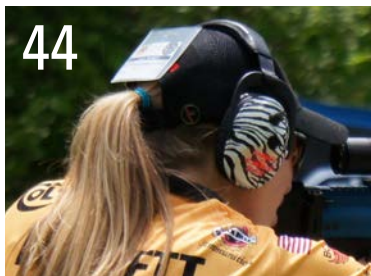
Local matches from coast to coast.

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Reprints from *American Rifleman* magazine on competitive shooting in the early years.

44 Coming Events

Coming Events lists national matches and provides a download link to the monthly list of 11,000 local matches each year.

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LEGENDS

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ARTHUR CHARLES JACKSON USAFR (RET)



Lieutenant Colonel Arthur Charles Jackson USAFR (RET) passed away on January 6, 2015 at the age of 96.

The Olympic Bronze medalist and World Champion participated in three Summer Olympic Games (1948, 1952, and 1956), three ISSF World Shooting Championships (1949, 1952, and 1954) and two Pan American Games (1951 and 1954),

in which he established several world records and won numerous Gold medals. Jackson was elected to the United States International Shooting Hall of Fame in 1999.

He was a transitional figure in U.S. International shooting. Jackson, the first U.S. 300 meter international competitor after World War II, was taught the kneeling position by Morris Fisher, the last U.S. 300 meter competitor before World War II. As one of the three original rifle shooters to form the U.S. Air Force Rifle Team, he won the 1951 President's Match.

He gifted the Henry Fulton Trophy, which is awarded to the high scorer in the Palma Team match, to the NRA in 1997. In a case of turnabout being fair play, Mrs. Gloria F. Huckaby, the youngest granddaughter of Henry Fulton (and the first person to win the Wimbledon Cup in 1875), donated the Arthur C. Jackson Trophy to the NRA. Huckaby and the NRA decided it was to be awarded to the top shooter at the World Black Powder Long Range International Championships.

Jackson, a frequent contributor to *The American Rifleman* in the 1950s and 1960s, contributed his extensive, invaluable knowledge and expertise to the development of the modern rifle shooting sports.

2015

NRA RULE CHANGES

Updated changes to the rule books are available at this link:

<http://compete.nra.org/official-nra-rule-books.aspx>

Rule changes are effective for 2015, as passed by the NRA Board of Directors in January 2015.

NRA ANNUAL MEETINGS & EXHIBITS

The National Rifle Association Annual Meetings & Exhibits has been recognized by the Trade Show News Network (TSNN) as one of the fastest growing trade shows in the United States, by attendance, from 2011-2013. The 2015 NRA Annual Meetings & Exhibits will take place at the brand new Music City Center in Nashville, TN from April 10-12. To find out more information about exhibitors, speakers, seminars and special events at the 2015 NRA Annual Meeting go to www.nraam.org or follow us on Facebook.



WHAT'S IN YOUR SHOOTING BAG, AMY SOWASH?

By Barbara Baird, www.womensoutdoornews.com

As a little girl, Amy Sowash dreamed of shooting in the Olympics, especially when she plinked pop cans with her dad. She didn't start taking the journey seriously, though, until she began preparing to attend college. At that point, Sowash started shooting competitively with rifles, and the next year, she walked on to the University of Kentucky rifle team. She then made the U.S. National Team as a senior in college and after graduating, moved to the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. Since then she has claimed national champion and world champion titles, along with the silver medal at the 2011 ISSF World Cup in Sydney. In 2012, she stepped away from being a competitor to become an assistant coach at her alma mater in Kentucky, where the team finished second in the NCAA Championships.

Now, Sowash is back in the training regime, getting ready for air rifle and 3x20 smallbore matches.

Sowash shoots an Anschutz 1913 aluminum stock for smallbore and an Anschutz 2003 air rifle. "I like the way both rifles perform and fit me. The company has a strict standard of excellence. Plus, they are really nice people! I shoot Eley for smallbore ammunition and H&N pellets," said Sowash.

She carries a Dakine small rolling duffel. "It's the perfect size for my jacket and pants and I can fit everything I need in it. It is also extremely durable without being heavy. When trying to make weight for airlines, the weight of a bag can make all the difference. If a bag is durable enough to last two years at more than 100,000 miles of airline travel per year,



I think it's amazing," she said.

She packs the following items into her bag:

1. **Sauer jacket, pants and boots**
2. **Shooting stand**
3. **Ammo**
4. **Cleaning kit**
5. **Shooting gloves, one for standing and one for sling**
6. **Glue and duct tape ("For emergencies—because you never know what flying across the world will do to your gear!")**
7. **Three sets of buttplates and cheekpieces**
8. **Extra screws**
9. **Allen wrenches, screw drivers, torque wrench**
10. **Three sets of sights, blinders, and extra front sight apertures**
11. **Kneeling roll and tape measure**
12. **ISSF rules book**
13. **Shooting journal**
14. **Shooting sweater and visor**
15. **Handstop and sling**
16. **Gum**

Sowash will compete in a selection match at Ft. Benning, GA, in March, the Korean World Cup in April and the USA World Cup in May.

She advises new shooters to "... take your time and really develop a quality shot process so that following through is easy. Each step you do should make the next one easier until you seamlessly pull the trigger."

 **@amysowash**

PARTNER'S CORNER

This section of Shooter's News is where we list companies who display the *Shooting Sports USA* logo and link on their websites. Here, we return the favor. To join the **FREE** partners list, please contact us using the magazine's e-mail address: shootingsportsusa@nrahq.org



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MONTHLY PHOTO CAPTION CONTEST

Submit your humorous photo caption to shootingsportsusa@nrahq.org no later than February 10, 2015, in order to appear in the March issue. Each month we will share submissions with our judges. The winning caption author will receive a complimentary smart phone WeatherFlow anemometer as reported [here](#). ☺



JANUARY PHOTO

January winning caption submitted by John Hayes of Monroe, WI.

"Whew, only one more cart like this and then I can start bringing up the stuff we forgot!"



FEBRUARY PHOTO

(Your Caption Here!)



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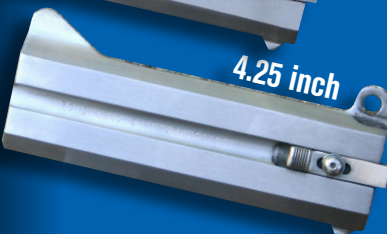
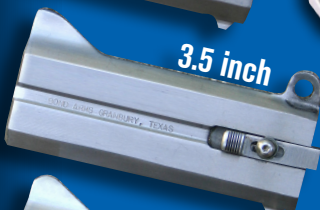
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CONNECTICUT OUTDOOR PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Rockville Fish and Game Club

Vernon, CT

September 20-21

Submitted by Frank Savino

31 competitors

Shooting conditions were favorable with the exception of a few showers on Sunday morning. Dave Lange of Glen Rock, NJ was the overall match winner. Lange fired an 893-52X in .22, an 883-36X in center fire, and 882-43X in .45 for a grand aggregate 2658-133X.

Paul Valintakonis' score of 2617-117X earned him the Resident State Champion title. There were 16 competitors who fired the Distinguished Revolver Match, 15 of those were non-distinguished. Frank Savino of Stratford, CT, took first place with a score of 267-3X. Robert Doran and Sean Perry earned leg points firing scores of 266-5X and 263-6X respectively.

Twenty-three competitors fired the EIC Leg Match, 18 of those shooters were non-distinguished. Dave Lange posted a 293-14X to win the Gold medal. Earning leg points were Sean Miele with a 269-4X and Shane Murphy who fired a 256-3X.

Winner	Dave Lange Glen Rock, NJ	2658-133X
1st HM	Paul Valintakonis Enfield, CT	2617-117X
1st M	Shane Murphy Torrington, CT	2598-120X
1st EX	Michael Bardoorian New Haven, CT	2526-68X
1st SS	Dave Kyle Madison, CT	2441-53X
1st MM	Garry DiLalla Shelton, CT	2337-36X

INDIANA STATE OUTDOOR PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIP

Indiana State Rifle and Pistol Association

Indianapolis, IN

September 20-21

Submitted by T. Petersen

42 competitors

Winner	Mark Kreimer Cincinnati, OH	2565-76X
2nd	Marvin Dilley Hamilton, OH	2563-88X
3rd	Darrell Cox Ashmore, IL	2563-69X
1st M	Marvin Dilley Hamilton, OH	2563-88X
1st AAA	Darrell Cox Ashmore, IL	2563-69X
1st AA	Chuck Bennett Anderson, IN	2474-49X
1st A	Joseph Boling Indianapolis, IN	2264-30X
1st Team	St. Joseph Valley Rifle and Pistol Assoc. Bristol, IN	3343-84X
High Woman	Miriam Everest Goshen, IN	2243-29X
High Junior	Patrick Gray Anderson, IN	1702-6X
Indiana State Champion	Glenn Ornat Wakarusa, IN	2555-70X

NORTH DAKOTA BPCR SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIP

Bismark/Mandan Rifle and Pistol Assoc.

Bismark, ND

September 20-21

Submitted by Ken Heier

15 competitors

The 12th Annual Black Powder Cartridge Silhouette Match took place at the very well appointed 1,000-yard Fried Family Marksmanship Center. Match conditions were very difficult on the first day of the two-day, 80-shot aggregate, with winds gusting from 35-40 mph.

Winner	Gregg Simon Mobridge, SD	45/80
2nd	Don Wiechmann Wagner, SD	43/80
3rd	Dwayne Wiechmann Wagner, SD	43/80
1st AA	Ken Heier * Bismark, SD	42/80

* State Champion

OKLAHOMA SMALLBORE OUT- DOOR PRONE CHAMPIONSHIP

Ponca City Rifle & Pistol Club

Ponca City, OK

October 4-5

Submitted by James Barnett

7 competitors

Winner	Gary Miller Ardmore, OK	3190-196X
1st EX	Rick Primrose Lone Grove, OK	3166-165X
1st MK	C. Warren Truver Davis, OK	3120-115X
High Junior	Megan Hilbish Emporia, KS	1588-94X

ALASKA SILHOUETTE & HUNTING RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP

Birchwood Shooting Park

Chugiak, AK

October 4-5

Submitted by Al Nyback

8 competitors

Overcast skies and snow greeted competitors at the Alaska State Smallbore Silhouette Championship. Temperatures were at +36°F with SW winds at 3 mph.

John Clark prevailed in a shoot-off with Ron Fleischhacker to win the standard rifle category at the end of day one. Both men shot identical scores of 31/40 and 35/40, which lead to the shoot-off. Later, Randy Cler won a shoot-off against Bob Benson. Cler claimed the class A standard rifle category.

Day two of the event, temperatures remained the same with more overcast skies and NE winds at 7 mph. Fleischhacker's two-day combined scores won him the overall championship. ☺

STANDARD RIFLE—80 SHOTS

Winner	John Clark Eagle River, AK	66
1st AAA	Mike Milhollin Anchorage, AK	49
1st AA	Mark Ford Eagle River, AK	43
1st AA	Randy Cler Wasilla, AK	28

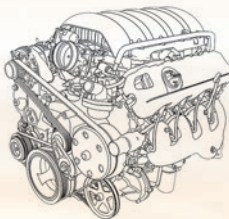
HUNTING RIFLE—80 SHOTS

Winner	Ron Fleischhacker Eagle River, AK	61
1st AAA	Mike Milhollin Anchorage, AK	40
1st AA	Mark Ford Eagle River, AK	44
1st AA	Randy Cler Wasilla, AK	38

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We made the new Chevy Silverado stronger. But we also made it smarter with three fuel-saving technologies.* We'll start with Active Fuel Management. This feature automatically senses load and demand, then activates or deactivates cylinders accordingly. And because the valves' switching mechanism is depressurized, you won't notice the shift while driving.



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CHEVROLET 

IF you watch cable television, you may recall seeing Gabby make it to the individual stage during Season 4 of the

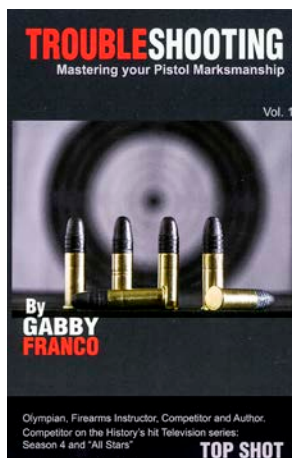
History Channel's TOP SHOT series. If you follow the Olympics, you'll also recognize the name. Gabriela "Gabby" Franco began her competitive career in 1996 and later represented her country as a member of the Venezuelan Olympic Air and Sport Pistol Teams in the 2000 Sydney Games. She has earned a dozen International titles, including multi-year Venezuelan National Champion, and has walked away with three Gold medals she earned during the 2002 South American Games. She has since relocated to the United States where she extended her skill sets to include USPSA-style action shooting.

This last phase is what gives her book a unique perspective. As an Olympic shooter-turned-action-pistol-champion, she is one of the few who can apply precision bullseye skills while running and shooting with tactical reloads and a timer held near her ear.

In 100, easy-to-read and professionally-illustrated pages (also available in Spanish), Franco succinctly reinforces the safety rules and basic techniques taught in the NRA Basic Pistol Class, but then continues the lessons in areas typically absorbed only after years of tactical competition. With a writing style that leaves the reader feeling like she is standing next to them, Franco goes into detail about topics such as natural point of aim whereby you aim your body at the target for better alignment during

TROUBLE SHOOTING

BY GABBY FRANCO



REVIEW BY CHIP LOHMAN

"THE TRUTH IS,
THE PROCESS OF
A SHOT DOESN'T
END UNTIL YOU
RECOVER YOUR
FRONT SIGHT
AS IF YOU
WERE GOING TO
SHOOT AGAIN."



movement and rapid fire; adjustment of your center-of-gravity; facing the next target by following your chin and eyes; the error of rolling the shoulders too high; and proper elbow alignment for recoil management. And while the book is direct and to-the-point, Franco doesn't skimp on the critical skills. For instance, seven pages are devoted to a properly balanced grip for better alignment, followed by dry-fire exercises to effectively transfer the skills to the reader.

As an NRA training counselor with a few hundred classes behind me, my early impression of TROUBLE-SHOOTING was that I was about to read another basic textbook. But every other page provides just enough "Gabby" to contribute a new and impactful point of view of competitive shooting. It's as if she is waiting for the student to exit their NRA Basic Course so she can greet them with her book to say: "Now let's take what you've just learned and get you ready to compete!"

One can spend a lot more than the book's \$20 price tag on travel, training, ammunition and entrance fees before discovering Gabby's "gold nuggets" on his/her own. And, as the gift-that-keeps-on-giving, the book is organized such that you can pack it in your range bag for easy review, reference the numerous practice drills, and enter notes into the logbook section. This book will easily help new competitors skip over several years of trial-and-error, so buy one today in time for the 2015 season. For more about Gabby Franco or to purchase her book, go to: www.GabbyFranco.com. ©

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OAL-10.5"; Weight-41 oz.
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9mm, .38 Sup.,
.40 S&W, .45 ACP



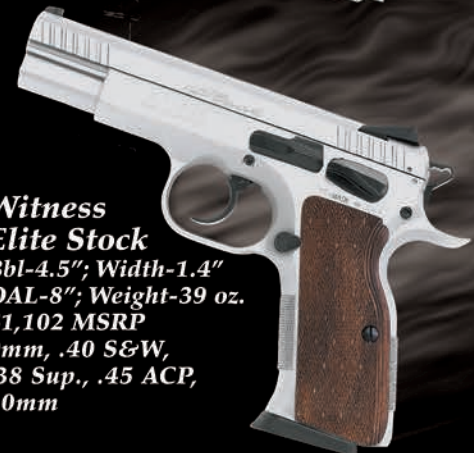
Witness Elite Limited

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OAL-9"; Weight-45 oz.
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WE NEED MORE WOMEN COACHES

BY SALLY STEVENS

(As published on www.Ammoland.com, December 2014.)

The youth shooting sports demographic has changed in a positive way over the last several years, moving from a predominantly male sport to a greater balance of male and female shooters.

There continues to be, however, a significant lack of female shooting coaches across all shooting sports disciplines. This is totally logical, in my opinion, as the usual time progression for shooters moves from youth shooter to adult shooter and, possibly, adult coach. I believe there is an untapped resource out there to change this pattern, as waiting for our many young female shooters to become coaches and mentors does not need to be the only way to increase female shooting coaches.

How do I know this? As a 42-year-old widow and mother of three youth shooters, I was asked by their

coach to try the sport, just for fun. I declined twice but, being a good Minnesotan, politely accepted on the third offer and shot two out of 25 clays on my first round of Trap. My score was bad, clearly, but a spark was ignited in me and I was hooked on both the sport and shooting competition! Within my first year I logged in over 10,000 targets in practice and competition, completed the NRA Level I Shotgun Coach class, and started helping the coach who first introduced me to the sport.

Was I, initially, afraid to try and, more accurately, afraid to fail, especially in front of my children and everyone else at the club? Absolutely. Ultimately, though, it was the encouragement I received from coaches, parents, fellow shooters and, especially, the pride of my children and my love of the game that propelled me forward.

► Author Sally Stevens (r.) went from trying trap for the fun of it, to a NRA Level I Shotgun Coach. Love of the game led her to a new passion.



PATRICK MACNAB

Now, as an NRA Certified Level II Shotgun Coach and a member of the National Shotgun Coach Development Staff, I train, mentor, and encourage women to take their own leap of faith to become shooters and coaches. I encourage you to reach out to mothers, sisters, aunts, female friends—these are just some of the many women in our shooters' lives who have the potential to become influential, impactful coaches and mentors.

In Minnesota I mentor several women coaches who, like me, had never shot a gun before adulthood but are now positively influencing hundreds of youth as successful coaches. Coaching doesn't stop with our athletes; it extends to finding those who can impact positive change in our disciplines and coaching them towards success.

Mothers of youth shooters are some of my favorite people. Granted, that may be because I started out as a mother of youth shooters before becoming a shooter myself and, ultimately, a coach. But mostly it's because there is something very powerful about a woman committed to a shooting program. Many of my hardest workers, organized and dedicated volunteers, and most passionate coaches are women. Several did not start out this way and, in fact, did not want their children participating in shooting sports at all!

A few tips, choice words, and education usually help even the most cautious, protective parent to view shooting sports in a more constructive light.

As a coach I am particularly tuned into all attendees on registration day, with youth shooters usually very excited and parents in tow. In my experience, I find that parents with reservations, usually mothers, wait until the paperwork is done before asking questions regarding safety, procedure, or expectations. This is a crucial time and one not to be brushed off. The question you are really being asked is, "Will my child be safe?" Know that it is not enough to simply tell a parent that yes, everything will be fine—it is your responsibility as coach to prove safety is first and foremost in your program.

Part of the requirement for all our shooters, from new shooters to our national competition squads, is to attend our 30-minute safety class annually.

No exceptions. We also require parents new to our program to attend, followed by a new shooter orientation, which is another 30-45 minute class outlining expectations, responsibilities and the basics of our sport. During this time I see the biggest change in parent attitude as, most often, fear is predicated by a lack of information.

We follow this with a question and answer session, and end with a request for adult volunteers! I am always struck by the number of women who previously expressed concerns but, after attending the safety and procedure classes, they become our biggest support system. In fact, many of our shooters' mothers/aunts/friends have asked for instruction. Some have even started their own league at our club!

Education and participation through volunteering is the key to helping cautious parents become comfortable with all disciplines of shooting sports. If a parent expresses concern, rather than being dismissive or flippant, invite them in to be a part of the program. You will be surprised how inclusion can improve and grow your program, change the dynamics of your club and, ultimately, solidify the future of shooting sports.

My challenge to you is to encourage women to step forward, ask them to become coaches, and have our coaching teams reflect the same, changing demographic of our shooters and everyday life. It's a good thing. ☺

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Sally Stevens is working on her Masters in Sports Psychology and is a mom/step-mom to eight kids and nine grandkids. She is a Level II NRA Shotgun Coach and a member of the NRA National Shotgun Coach Development Staff. She has won the 2009 Minnesota State Ladies Handicap Championship, 2011 Heartland Grand Lady Singles Championship, 2012 Ohio Lady Handicap Championship, captained the 2014 Minnesota Lady All-State Team and the 2014 Minnesota State High School League Clay Target Champions. And it all began with that first 2/25 trap score.



THE ALL-AMERICAN PROGRAM



BY NRA STAFF

PHOTOS FROM THE BOOK: NRA ALL-AMERICANS

This inaugural article introduces a new, annual feature in *Shooting Sports USA* where NRA Staff will announce the year's All-American nominations each spring.

Created in 1936, the All-American award honors collegiate shooters in the rifle, pistol, and shotgun disciplines. Award recipients are selected by NRA's Collegiate Programs Committee, one of 39 policy-making committees of the Association. The selection committee is comprised of individuals well known in the competitive shooting community. Some committee members are former All-Americans, have served as coaches of All-Americans, or both.

The program is committed to recognizing and honoring collegians that have performed remarkable shooting feats during a shooting season while demonstrating exceptional leadership and character. To be named an All-American is the pinnacle of athletic achievement. Consistent and exemplary performance is a hallmark and perhaps the most evident characteristic of this award. All-Americans also embody intangible attributes such as integrity, respect, and



responsibility. Therefore, these highly motivated men and women distinguish themselves on another level. Whether NRA All-Americans continue outstanding marksman careers or pursue other fields such as medicine, architecture, education, law, military or even space exploration, they accomplish notable successes in their profession.

The All-American award has become an attainable, although elusive, goal for all three disciplines of college shooting sports. The experiences and knowledge gained in pursuing and achieving the prestigious honor remain with the NRA All-American throughout his or her shooting and professional career.

Can you identify these NRA All-Americans? See the listing at the end of this article.

The selection criteria for Rifle and Pistol All-American status has evolved from performance in specific matches and personal knowledge of the shooter, to more objective guidelines including: full time undergraduate or graduate status with or without team affiliation, average score for the season, minimum number of shots fired, number of matches fired, specific matches required, recommendations from coaches and other school officials.

NRA All-American Shotgun honors are awarded to the top ten High Overall National Champions at the Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Intercollegiate Clay Target Championships. Typically, places 1 through 5 are awarded First Team NRA All-American Shotgun awards, and places 6 through 10 are awarded Second Team NRA All-American Shotgun awards. No preliminary paperwork is necessary to become a Collegiate Shotgun All-American.

Since the start of the NRA's college honors program, All-Americans have contributed significantly to international shooting. For example, Robert Sandager, a 1936 NRA All-American from the University of Minnesota, went on to be named to the U.S. Shooting Team for the



36th World Championships. Since that first year, the extensive list of NRA All-Americans competing at the international level reads like a *Who's Who* of shooters.

The NRA All-American Program stands out because of its commitment to recognize and honor collegians that have performed remarkable shooting feats through a shooting season. This emphasis on continuous exceptional performance has been a major strength of the program. Acknowledging the outstanding achievements of collegiate shooters remains paramount to the All-American Program's history. The integrity of the All-American Program has remained intact because its foundation was built on respect for every college shooter willing to reach beyond the status quo and challenge himself/herself not only to meet, but to exceed the standards required of an All-American. To be an NRA All-American is to always accept the challenge of performing at optimal levels while demonstrating exceptional leadership and character.

NRA All-Americans: A Commemorative 1936-1998 chronicles the first 60 years of the NRA All-American Program. Since 1936, the top Collegiate Rifle, Pistol & Shotgun shooters have been annually selected as an "NRA All-American Team." If you were selected as part of this team during this period, or are interested in the NRA Collegiate Shooting Program, this book is for you. The cost of the commemorative book is only \$25.00. You may order your copy from the [NRA Program Materials Center](#). ©

DEFINITIVE NRA ALL-AMERICANS

- ① **Lones Wigger**
(Montana State College)
- ② **Ernest Vande Zande**
(Murray State University)
- ③ **Lanny Bassham**
(University of Texas at Arlington)
- ④ **Margaret Murdock**
(Kansas State University)
- ⑤ **H.O. Moody**
(San Francisco State College),
NRA National Rifle Manager
- ⑥ **Paul E. R. Nordquist**,
(George Washington University),
NRA Historian
- ⑦ **Launi Meili**
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**THE NEW
HERD BULL**



► The 1920 U.S. Olympic Rifle Team in Antwerp, Belgium. The total number of competitors was 288 competitors: 274 men and 14 women.



1920 U.S. Olympic Rifle Team, Beverloo Range, Belgium.
1st row Schriver; Fisher; Schofield; Henshaw; Spooner.
2nd row Adame; Leushner; Osburn; Rothrock; Fenton; Brown; Smith.
3rd row Lee; Nuesslein; Lindroth; Shaw; Jackson; Hird; Lewless.

THE

ROARING TWENTIES

U.S. INTERNATIONAL SHOOTING IN THE 1920S.

BY PAUL NORDQUIST

This was the first American decade in international rifle shooting. The 1920s were the decade of Prohibition, but it was also the decade that the United States became a major player in international

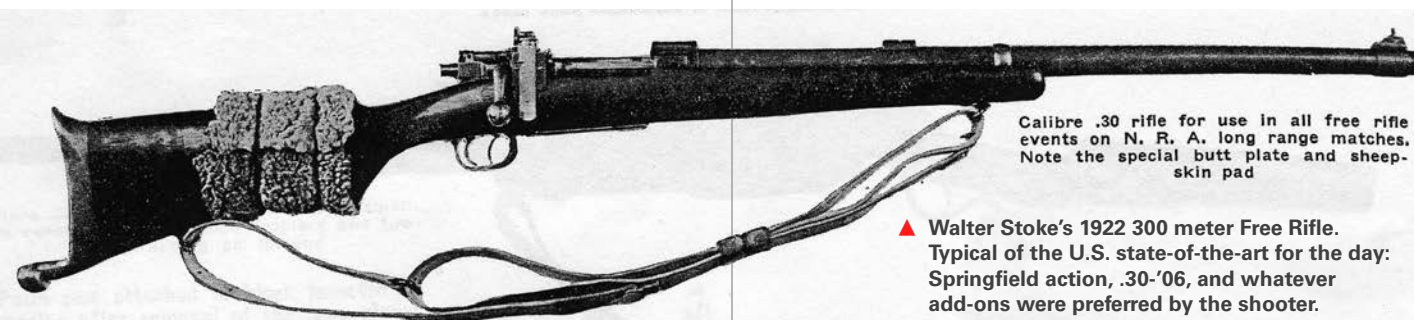
300 meter competition. Our teams were always in contention for honors in the annual World Championship matches, which today are held every four years. The 300 meter competition is a "3 x 40" match: 40 shots each, prone, kneeling and

standing on the 300 meter target where the 10-ring is 3.93 inches and the 1-ring is 39.37 inches in diameter. In the 1920s, teams had five firing members.

For most of those years we managed to dominate 300 meter competition using rifles based on the Model 1903 Springfield chambered for the .30-'06. We had two decades of experience with the Springfield in domestic across-the-course and long range high power competition. We knew it well. The great American marksman, Morris Fisher, had used an unmodified (though selected) Springfield to win the 3 x 40 match in the 1920 Olympic Games, although

will be out of the barrel and on its way to the target. Otteson reports that the Springfield of the 1920s had a lock time of 6.5 milliseconds (ms). Most modern bolt action rifles have lock times in the 2-4 ms range.

An earlier article ([SSUSA, May 2013](#)) told how our 1921 300 meter team not only won the world team championship but, by introducing aperture sights and the rifle sling (in prone and kneeling) changed international rifle shooting forever. The team's rifles were heavy-barreled Springfields with the heads of the cocking pieces ground off



the European shooters favored rifles based on the Martini single shot action (for its fast lock time) stocked in a manner reminiscent of the American Schützen rifle. There were a few Martinis in the USA but they were uncommon.

The Springfield had some shortcomings: The trigger did not permit pull weights in the desired ounce range and it had a lengthy lock time. Team members and officials worked on these two problems throughout the 1920s. The trigger problem was addressed by a succession of replacement set triggers: initially a German model and later by American units made by Frank Rimkunas and G. A. Woody.

The lock time is the time interval between trigger actuation and striker impact on the primer. Stuart Otteson, in *The Bolt Action*, notes that "It is primarily a function of the length of firing pin travel, the power of the mainspring and the weight the mainspring must accelerate." In the time it takes the firing pin of the long lock time rifle to reach the primer, the bullet fired with the *short* lock time

and bolts with "a selected firing pin and spring." No lock time figures are cited in the article but the improvement, if not dramatic, was probably helpful.

The U.S. team did not rest on its 1921 laurels for the 1922 World Championship. Springfield Armory and the Marine Corps Depot in Philadelphia developed the rifles for the 1922 team. Quality barrels were carefully bedded in stocks having extra wood for individual fitting. An adjustable, removable hook buttplate and an adjustable cork ball palm rest completed the package. And, "An American refinement never before placed on a match rifle" was added: a fore-end sling swivel adjustable over three inches in quarter inch increments. Lyman 48 rear sights were combined with aperture front sights with a selection of inserts.

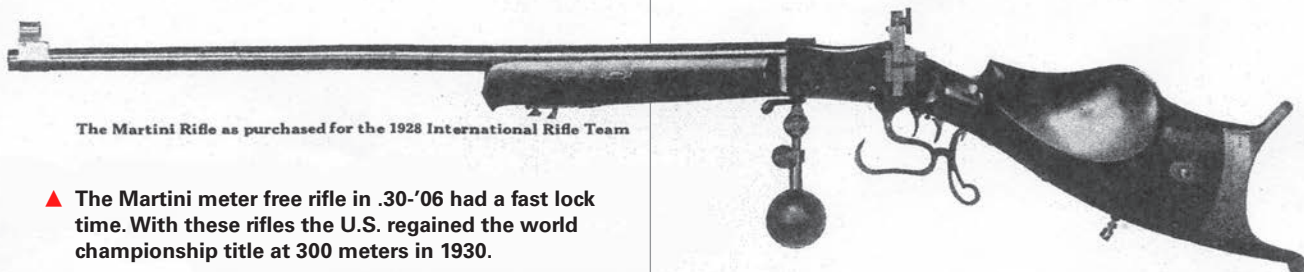
To reduce lock time, the cocking piece knob was removed and the firing pin lightened by milling grooves in it lengthwise; a stronger firing

pin spring also helped. In Milan, Italy, they took on the world, repeating their team victory of the previous year—though this time by only a 12 point margin of 5132 to 5120 over the Swiss. Walter Stokes repeated his 1921 win in the 3 x 40 aggregate with a 1067 and took home the kneeling championship as well with a 356. From the available pictures, Walter Stokes used a Springfield of his own design featuring a bronze hook buttplate.

The 1923 world championship was scheduled for Camp Perry but only the U.S. team showed up. The official excuse was that the currency exchange rate was so unfavorable that the Europeans couldn't afford the trip. Prohibition was also a problem: *The American Rifleman* (10/1/1923) announced "When Continental Europe, on the plea that the dollar was too big and the country too dry, refused to send teams to participate in the International Matches of 1923, the United States determined to defend its claims to the Individual and Team

The 1924 U.S. team was determined to show the world that our "win" in 1923 reflected our true shooting ability. After try-outs at the Quantico, VA, Marine Corps Base, the team arrived in Rheims, France in early June. There were 12 other nations competing with a full day devoted to each position. After the standing day, the U.S. led the Swiss by five points and in kneeling we picked up two more. Prone made the big difference: We defeated the Swiss by 93 points, giving us a team total of 5284 (x 6000)—a full 100 points ahead of our Swiss rivals. No doubt about it; our performance the year before was no fluke. Morris Fisher won the 3 x 40 individual championship (with a 1075) and Walter Stokes shot 383 for the prone championship. We used Springfield rifles with Pope barrels, though Stokes used a Remington barrel.

The Swiss, needless to say, were not amused, and resolved to do better in 1925 when the



The Martini Rifle as purchased for the 1928 International Rifle Team

▲ The Martini meter free rifle in .30-'06 had a fast lock time. With these rifles the U.S. regained the world championship title at 300 meters in 1930.

Championships of the world, won at Lyon and Milan, whether or not any other contenders appeared." Morris Fisher trained hard and raised the 3 x 40 record twelve points to 1090 and our five shooters raised the team record a whopping 129 points to 5301. Our team, in addition to Fisher, included Walter Stokes, Lawrence Nusslein, J. K. Boles and Carl Osburn; all international veterans.

Most of the 1923 team used Springfields as they had earlier but Carl Osburn used two rifles: for prone, a Springfield stocked by Marine E.J. Blade (who won that year's Wimbledon Cup) and a Martini for kneeling and standing.

World Championship matches would be held on their home turf, in St. Gallen, Switzerland.

The USA went into the 1925 matches "one down." Several of our most experienced shooters were unable to make the trip and, because of the late decision to send a team, open try-outs were not used for team selection. Instead, those judged to be of "team timber" were invited to Quantico where final team selection occurred.

The Swiss had problems, too. They had reportedly obtained a Springfield match rifle and a quantity of our ammunition. Testing revealed that their equipment was less accurate than ours. The fast

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lock time of the Martini was not a cure-all. Swiss precision was called upon and soon their team's rifles were equipped with improved barrels and ammunition. The new combinations were found to be as accurate as ours, and it worked. The Swiss won the 3 x 40 team championship by 131 points, posting a new record score of 5386. The Swiss won all four individual championships three with new record scores. The low man on the Swiss team equaled the score of our second highest shooter.

There were no matches in 1926 but the U.S. team that went to the 1927 World Championships probably had the finest Springfield match rifles ever assembled. John Garand (designer of the M1 rifle) had developed an innovative modification of the Springfield firing mechanism that gave a measured lock time of 2.2 ms, said to be faster than the Martini, and G. A. Woody had produced a set trigger (of a four lever design) better than any alternative. Nonetheless, both the Swiss and the Swedes outshot us, relegating us to third place. Our only bright spot was that Bill Bruce of Cheyenne, WY, won the prone championship with a record 389 score. Clearly, something had to be done and we did it. We got Martinis.

Julian Hatcher waxed rhapsodic in the June, 1928, *Rifleman*: "These [Martini] rifles seem to just naturally fall into place in the standing position . . . In fact, the gun seems to point and hold itself." We installed our own .30-'06 barrels on otherwise complete Martini platforms. Each rifle came with two buttplates; one for prone and one for kneeling and standing.

For all that, in the 1928 World Championships in Loosduinen, The Netherlands, we again finished third behind the same two as the year before: Switzerland (with a new record score) and Sweden. We beat the Swiss prone but trailed them by 59 points standing. In 1929, we improved our placement to a more respectable second place, but found ourselves outgunned by two Swiss: Hartmann and



▲ The 1930 U.S. 300 meter team. Kneeling (l. to r.) Russel Seitzinger, Harry Renshaw and William Bruce. Sitting: Morris Fisher, J.K. Boles and S.R. Hinds. Standing: Joe Sharp, Frank Parsons and Emmet Swanson.

Zimmermann, who both shot record scores of 1114. American Harry Renshaw was third with a 1091. The Swiss pair outshot our top two (Renshaw and Russell Seitzinger) by 47 points and the Swiss beat us by 45. The Swedes, on their home range in Stockholm, could do no better than third.

The third time with the Martinis was the charm. Our 1930s team, comprising J. B. Sharp, Morris

Fisher, Bill Bruce, Harry Renshaw, Frank Parsons, Emmet Swanson, Russell Seitzinger, J. K. Boles (captain), J. S. Hatcher (adjutant), and S. R. Hinds (coach) turned in superb try-out scores, and neither bad weather nor very odd range construction in Antwerp, Belgium, could deter us from a victory over the Swiss. Our score of 5441, while one point short of the Swiss world record, was 34 points ahead of our rivals. We won standing and prone, leaving only a kneeling victory to provide the Swiss with some consolation. Harry Renshaw was high on the U.S. team with an even 1100, good for second place overall and a record American score—one that would not be exceeded by a U.S. shooter for 22 years.

We celebrated our World Championship win that year by withdrawing from international free rifle competition. The NRA had been considering the move for years but had not wanted to leave the field as long as we were losing. Now, though, we were on top again and could retire without looking like losers running from a fight.

The scant popularity of the free rifle game in the U.S. was cited as a reason for dropping out, along with the difficulty of getting adequate equipment and the rising popularity of the smallbore game. We would concentrate on the latter, thus starting the cycle of Pershing/Roberts international teams that lasts to this day.

So ended the first American decade in international shooting. There would be more and greater to come, but over two decades would pass before it happened. ©

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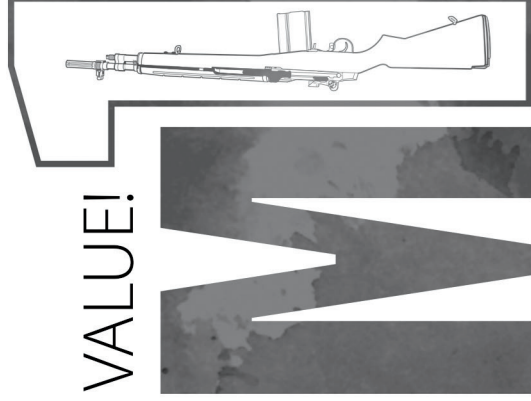
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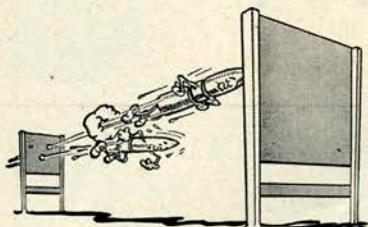
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AMERICAN RIFLEMAN

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WHERE THEY HIT!

Rifling Twist and Bullet Flight

BY ROBERT HUTTON

THREE YEARS ago, with the help of some thirty shooters who were participating in the development of a modern cartridge, the writer began a series of tests to see what wildcat cartridges would do as regards accuracy and trajectory. These tests, now complete and reported upon in the *AMERICAN RIFLEMAN* in .25-caliber (November 1949) and in .30-caliber (March 1951), show that all of the wildcats selected for the tests delivered faster velocities and better accuracy than any standard cases.

All of the shooting was in the form of drop shooting after each load had been zeroed at 100 yards. When possible, velocities were chronographed. We do not know pressures.

What we did not know when tests were started was that barrel twist made any great difference. It was presumed that the chap who designed a cartridge knew also what twist barrel his cartridge would require, and if he stayed strictly with the Greenhill formula* that is where it seems he may have been sadly mistaken.

Sir Alfred George Greenhill (1847-1927), English mathematician, who worked out the accepted formula for determining twist of rifling, was a lecturer in mathematics at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, 1873-76, and a professor of mathematics to the advanced class of Artillery Officers, Woolwich, from 1876 through 1906.

The Greenhill formula, which states categorically the twist a rifle barrel should have, has been accepted as the standard authority by factories, individual designers, and careful hand-loaders since the middle of the 19th century. Translated by Al Barr the application of the Greenhill formula to modern bullets is as follows:

	Length (inches)	Twist (inches)
.25 caliber 100-grain Sierra	.975	9.4
.25 caliber 117-grain Sierra BT	1.125	7.98
.270 caliber 130-grain Sierra	1.10	9.50
.270 caliber 150-grain Sierra	1.27	9.00
.30 caliber 150-grain Sierra	1.08	12.30
.30 caliber 180-grain Sierra	1.25	10.50

What we learned through these tests was that the formula for determining twist is not always reliable. To know a rifle and cartridge, it is necessary to study the bullet in flight with specific reference to how and when and even why it hits the way it does!

As the shooting got under way new problems were presented. These problems had not been overlooked—we just did not recognize their importance. For one thing, barrel twist was a subject that was stated in the results, but until we were in the middle of the .30 caliber shooting it was passed over lightly. Now we are trying to go back somewhere near the beginning and obtain causes as well as results.

*Information on the Greenhill formula will be found in a paper "On The Rotation Required For The Stability Of An Elongated Projectile" by Professor A. G. Greenhill, M.A., in *Proceedings Royal Artillery Institution*, Vols. 10 and 14. This source also gives a table of twists of rifling calculated by Captain J. B. Cundill, R.A., and extended by Mr. A. G. Hadcock, R.A., based on Professor Greenhill's formulas.

The tests reported in this article are the results of a study of barrel twists. The rules were formulated by the ablest ballisticians in America, the best shooters (bench rest) that we could obtain were glad to participate, and the best-known manufacturers of wildcats made up special guns for the test.

Bullets of known excellence were selected, and the design of them happened to be one of conventional shape and weight, it was liked by the shooters themselves, and it had the spiritual blessing of the Greenhill formula.

Only three calibers were chosen—.25, .270, and .30. The bullets were the 100-grain Lassen Gunshop (Moffat) in .25 caliber, the 130-grain Sierra flat-base in .27 caliber, and the 180-grain Sierra flat-base in .30 caliber.

In each instance, the manufacturers volunteered to donate all bullets, and our thanks for their interest is expressed, we believe, in the results that were obtained and are shown here.

Now let us study the results in the tables. Those statistics, when studied a little by the shooter, whether he be of target or hunter species, tell many amazing stories.

For each caliber, identical bullets were fired in different twist barrels—sometimes, but not always with the same load. For reasons we shall see, there was a specific reason for choosing two standard cartridges and the balance wildcats. There seemed to be no reason to pit a .257 Roberts cartridge against the .250 Savage because that would be the easy way to check a 10-inch twist against a 14-inch twist and standard velocities. That was done in the .25 caliber wildcat test (November 1949) and the same results appear in every manufacturers' catalog.

But to learn what a .30-'06 would do with 14-inch twist, we had to get out and shoot. This, and similar results, may be compared.

Now look at the tables. Since all of the cartridges were zeroed at 100 yards, the final proof of excellence is the 500-yard drop reading in inches. From that data you will get in a glance a quick explanation of what we are talking about.

Now for the conclusions:

1) Standard twists based upon the Greenhill formula are correct for standard factory cartridges in .25, .27, and .30 calibers.

2) Slower twists are needed when the same bullets are fired at velocities above 3,200 feet per seconds.

3) Fast-burning powders may be used in relatively light target or grouse loads provided the bullet designs agree pretty closely to the Greenhill formula rules. You simply convert your fast shooting wildcat into a standard or substandard cartridge ballistically.

4) In the largest cases, such as the wildcats based upon the .300 Magnum, there is every indication that more is needed than a slower twist barrel, and that is a slower burning powder. One specific test to be described later may not be regarded as enough to prove this point, but it does provide an indication.

5) The most efficient load for any cartridge is the one in which the largest amount of powder may be used to obtain the highest velocity in the slowest twist barrel.

6) The Greenhill formula is entirely correct in all cartridges with velocities up to 2,200 feet per second. A slightly slower twist is needed, or acceptable, up to 3,200 feet per second, at which point the formula collapses. A reasonable adaptation, however, of its logic, is to decrease about one turn per inch for each 300 or 400 feet per second of increased velocity over 3,300 feet per second.

In checking the conclusions above, please note that the .270 WCF seems to be a borderline case, and that is why the velocity at which the Greenhill formula is believed to collapse is about 3,100 feet per second. One thing is certain, and that is that several of the handloads delivered much higher velocities than standard factory loads. Note also that the short .300 Improved Capacity Load Grizzly Club, while designed to give .300 H&H ballistics in a case short enough for a Springfield rifle, actually did much better than that in a 14-inch twist. Assuming that by now the strong adherents of the two Dubiel cartridges have become reconciled to the fact that both Dubiel's designs were in the wrong direction, it is rather interesting now, aside from the interest in twist, to present this new cartridge. With 14-inch twist, and the load stated in the tables, the bullet chronographs at 3,200 feet per second on the Owen Chronograph. It just looks like—though we are not trying to do anything here but study barrel twists—the shortened and broadened .300 H&H case is superior to the old fashioned Holland and Holland Magnum cartridge, no matter how you load it and no matter what the twist is.

And you don't need a lengthened action to get those results. Better yet, of course, are the full-length .300 ICL Magnum and the .300 Weatherby Magnum cartridges, as shown in the .30 caliber drop tests (March 1951).

If you are a staunch supporter of factory cartridges, you will find all of the standard twists correct. If you have the chambers improved, so that the case may be reformed to give a velocity much over 3,200 feet per second, you will find that a slower twist will improve trajectory, velocity, and accuracy.

From these twist tests, and from the previously conducted drop tests in .25 and .30 calibers, it again seems to be apparent that it is not out of order to drop in a conclusion about the improved wildcat cartridge, as such.

The tests were conducted because most of the manufacturers of wildcats had no chronographs, no adequately measured rifle ranges, or, in short, no better shooting facilities than the nearest soapbox in the hardware store, where the greatest shooting in the history of exterior ballistics has taken place. But we took these boys by the ears and got them onto a rifle range. That part wasn't easy. Some of the designers, Weatherby, Juenke, and Pfeifer, for instance, couldn't get into shooting form fast enough. Others preferred to let results rest upon their tall tales on the slide rule battlefield, or of how the Catalina goat died when the hunter got off the boat at Avalon.

But we have a conclusion from all this shooting, which again, we think has been strengthened from the new tests: The greatest step in rifle ballistics since the advent of smokeless powder, in the decade following 1940, when the finest and flattest shooting to be recorded up to 500 yards was provided by manufacturers and designers of blown-out and improved cartridges, was made possible only by the development of slower burning powders.

As we shall see in the following detailed account of the individual cartridges in this test, the one powder available that is even slower burning than number 4350 may be the answer and more. It will probably be our next advance in the ballisticians search for speed. And when that greater point is reached, we should deduce from these tests that even slower twists of rifling will be required.

HERE IS WHERE THEY HIT!

Below are the barrel twist test results. All of the cartridges were zeroed at 100 yards and therefore drop at 500 yards is the most important figure shown. Other distances, with group sizes, are given to make each test clear.

.257-270 ICL Cartridge

100-grain Lassen Gunshop Bullets (Moffat)

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	59	0.	-1.0	-7.25	-19.0	-40.5	1.5	2.0	5.50	5.25	10.0
14	59	0.	-0.5	-4.50	-15.0	-30.25	1.2	1.87	3.87	9.25	13.

.270 WCF Cartridge

130-grain Sierra flatbase bullets

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	59	0.	-2.25	-8.50		-41.0	2.25	3.50	8.75		22
10	61	0.	-3.00	-11.0	-21.	-45.	2.50	4.75	7.25	9.50	9.5
12	58.5	0.	-2.25	-8.75	-19	-42	1.75	1.75	4.50	6.	4.5
12	59	0.	-2.12	-8.25	-17	-36	2.12	3.12	7.	10.5	17.5
14	57	0.				-53	1.75				7.75
14	58	0.				-48	0.75				7.50
14	59	0.	-2.25	-10.50	-23	-43	2.50	3.50	4.12	4.75	6.25
14	60.5	0.	-0.50	-7.0	-23	-37	1.25	2.75	6.	8.	12.

.30-'06 Springfield Cartridge

180-grain Sierra Bullets

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	58.7	0.	-3.25	-13.89	-27	-50	2.06	1.89	7.	5.50	5.25
14	58.7	0.	-4.50	-13	-30	-63.5	1.0	2.50	2.5	4.50	9.

.300 Holland and Holland Magnum

180-grain Sierra Bullets

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	67	0.	-2.5	-8.50	-23.	-49.5	1.75	3.50	5.12	7.25	9.25
10	68.5	0.	-0.75	-7.25	-17.5	-38.	1.50	4.75	5.12	6.50	11.50
14	68.5	0.	-2.00	-10.37	-20.75	-42.	1.82	2.89	7.25	6.75	8.

.300 Magnum ICL Grizzly

180-grain Sierra flatbase bullets

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	78.	0.	-1.5	-8.	-20.	-43.	1.25	2.5	3.25	6.50	6.25
14	82	0.	-1.62	-7.31	-17.75	-35.25	.317	2.31	3.0	3.5	6.12

.300 Magnum ICL Grizzly Cub

180-grain Sierra flatbase

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	69.	0.	-1.75	-8.75	-21.	-44.	1.45	2.50	4.25	4.15	6.25
14	71	0.	-2.5	-4.50	-25	-49.62	1.12	3.37	3.5	5.25	6.5

.25-270 ICL

100-grain Sierra flatbase

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
14	59	0.	-1.25	-7.50	-18.25	-35	.87	1.62	4.62	5.62	9.75

.25-270 ICL

100-grain Remington Clckt.

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	58.	0.		-5.		-42.50	1.25		8.25		8.

.270 WCF

150-grain Sierra Bullet

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
8 1/2	55	0.	-1.50	-8.	-25.75	-43.	1.50	2.12	4.75	5.	6.
4895 (27272) powder (grains)											
10	48.5	0.	-3.5	-9.75		-42	1.37	6.75	5.18		15.
10	49.5	0.	-4.12	-9.5		-45.5	1.37	3.87	8.37		10.

.270 WCF

110-grain Sierra

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
14	51	0.	-3.	8.5	-26	-44.7	.75	2.5	5.5		11.
12	56	0.	-1.5	-7.5	-16.5	-32.	1.75	1.75	3.25	5.5	9.7

.30-'06 ICL

150-grain Sierra

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
14	60	0.	-2.06	-9.5	24.5	-45.5	1.06	2.5	3.18	4.	3.87

.30-'06 ICL

180-grain Remington

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
10	60	0.	-2.25	-11.	-25.	-47.	1.50	3.3	3.62	6.12	6.

.30-'06 ICL

180-grain Sierra

Twist (inches, one turn of rifling)	4350 powder (grains)	Drop (in inches)					Group Size (in inches)				
		100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.	100 Yds.	200 Yds.	300 Yds.	400 Yds.	500 Yds.
14	61.5	0.	-1.50	-9.25	-21.62	-41.75	2.00	4.12	3.12	4.5	5.5
4064 powder (grains)											
14	57	0.	-3.12	-12.25	-28.75	-49.25	1.50	4.0	3.87	5.5	8.

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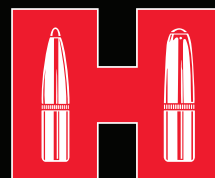
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Now for a report on the participants:

.25-270 ICL Ram—This cartridge was chosen because recent experiments indicate that it is as accurate as any of the improved .25's and that it comes within two inches at 500 yards of having the flattest trajectory to be recorded at that range in any caliber. Moreover, the cartridge is as well known in the west as the .25-'06 Ackley is in the east, and it is similar. Its shoulder is a bit sharper and it has a little more length. The .25-270 ICL is what the old .25 Niedner would have turned into back in 1914, if the experimenters of those days had the benefit of slower burning powder.

The two rifles chambered for this cartridge were especially made up by the Gun and Rod Shop, Santa Monica, for this test. One was in 10-inch twist, the other in 14-inch twist. Vern Juenke, brother of the manufacturer, made the test with the 10-inch twist, and the author is responsible for the 14-inch twist test. Both barrels are by Pfeifer, both rifles of Mauser design, and the same scope, 20 power, was by Lyman, height above bore identical.

Before leaving the .25-270 I want to quote from Colonel Townsend Whelen's letter to me in reference to a new .25 caliber cartridge which he is still testing:

"During the past year I have been getting far better results than ever before from my purely big-game rifles. One of the reasons is Sierra and Hornaday bullets, another is by using full charges of 4350 powder, and the third is the fine new (postwar) scopes. All groups in .25, .27, and .30 calibers are better than in prewar years . . .

"Take the 13-inch twist of the .25 Culver Krag. Velocities are about 3,000. A 14-inch twist will stabilize a 100-grain bullet even to 500 yards if the bullet is under an inch long, but if the bullet is over the inch it is liable to stagger. That is why I am using the 13-inch twist."

But let us move that velocity up to 3,700 feet per second, as we do in the .25-270. Accuracy, in test rifles, has averaged better than minute of angle to 500 yards. The 117-grain Sierra bullet would not stabilize at all, according to all of the rules of the Greenhill formula, and also all of the shooting of every experimenter whose reports have been printed. But the 117-grain bullet, made with flat base by Sierra, with "4350 Data" powder (see Dope Bag, page 46) furnished by Hodgdon, of Merriam, Kansas, stabilized the bullet to 500 yards when pressures were absolute maximum. All loads with 4350 and 4064 failed. The case holds 64 grains of "4350 Data" powder. Loaded to capacity, which means 64 grains, the 87- and 100-grain bullets gave fine results in a 14-inch twist barrel. With 62 grains and the 117-grain bullet, results were the same to 300 yards as the 100-grain Moffat with 59 grains of 4350.

The fast loads would be useless, and merely evidence of little boys trying to make a big noise, if we were not getting the fine accuracy at longer ranges that we are.

Let us leave the .25 caliber report, now, with the memory that Colonel Whelen, the most conservative in technique of modern shooters, the youngest in point of desire to learn what is new, a man who has placed accuracy rightfully above everything else, at least agrees with the theme of this piece to the extent of playing with us on number 4350 powder and slower barrel twists than the Greenhill formula calls for.

.270 WCF—Here we chose a standard caliber and cartridge, and tests were made with 10-, 12-, and 14-inch twists. Consult your Ideal handbook, Belding and Mull, Phil Sharpe, and you will find that there is little chance on reloading to beat factory ballistics in this case.

Yet if you will tear down a new Winchester .270 Silvertip

loading (130 grains) and look at the powder with a magnifying glass you will decide that the powder is either an unlotted version of "4350 Data" or 4350. At any rate there are 55 grains of it, and loads used of lotted Dupont 4350 in these tests were a lot heavier.

Also, Al Barr, of the technical division of the NRA, found that 57 grains of 4350 and the 130-grain bullet gave a pressure of 51,000 pounds per square inch.

The fact that the gentlemen engaged in this test kept going right up with their powder charges means only that they learned their own rifles would stand such loads. Mr. Barr is now experimenting with a .270 shortened to 7 mm. length, but it is target accuracy that is desired, not velocity, and the Greenhill formula will therefore pick the twist for him.

The .270's used were well-made rifles. The 12-inch twist was especially made up by Bob Herzog, the Shasta City gunsmith-shooter who is weaning all of the hunters in Northern California from the .30-30 by winning all of the turkey shoots his wife doesn't win instead. His brother, Paul, did the shooting. The 14-inch twist rifle is a Springfield with a Pfeifer heavy barrel, stocked by Monte Kennedy for John Pierce, who did the testing. The 10-inch twist is Mr. Winchester's best Model 70, tested by Carl Laughlin.

All of these rifles were also tested with the same bullets with faster burning powders, and at longer ranges they failed to produce results worth recording.

The 12-inch twist handled all bullets best, as you can see from the tables. And this was especially true with the 130-grain bullets, the bullet around which the .270 cartridge was designed.

.30-'06 Springfield—These were target-grade rifles especially made for the test. Both shooters, one with a 10-inch twist barrel and the other with a 14-inch twist, feel that their loads were correct and also maximum. The 14-inch twist rifle was a Springfield with Pfeifer barrel belonging to Carl Cramer, the bullet mold manufacturer, and he had the rifle made up for the purpose of testing it only. Jack Henninger, of the Cramer Company, North Hollywood, did the loading and shooting. Henninger is regarded as a handloading authority and he says that's enough powder for this .30-'06.

.300 H&H Magnum—Here again a special rifle had to be made up to test the cartridge in standard design with 14-inch twist. Joe Pfeifer volunteered to produce the gun, and Homer Brown, one of the best-known shooters in the West, did the shooting and loading. The barrel was then re-tested by Jerry Knight in the .30 caliber drop tests, with extremely fine accuracy, when it was converted to the .300 Pfeifer Super Magnum.

The 10-inch twist rifle was made by Adobe Walls Gunshop and tested by Gene Bunstine, and the results also were presented in the .30 caliber drop test story. We now have 10-inch and 14-inch twists to compare with same load, as we have in .30-'06.

.30-'06 ICL, .300 ICL Grizzly, .300 ICL Grizzly Cub—These cartridges are a part of a series designed by Arnold Juenke of Santa Monica, California. The .300 ICL Grizzly is a full-length .300 Magnum case blown out. The .300 ICL Grizzly Cub is the same case shortened to .30-'06 length. All of the improved capacity load cartridges are blown out to have almost straight bodies, 45 degree shoulders, and rather long necks. They are all extremely efficient cartridges, and they range from the .22 Gopher, an improved Hornet, to the improved .375 Magnum, and both chronograph and field test have shown that the improvement is nobody's dream. Roy Weatherby is the only other wildcat manufacturer who has made an effort to test his cartridges both with the chronograph and on the rifle range. ♦ ♦ ♦



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† For more information concerning the appraisal,
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* This offer is valid in the United States (and Puerto Rico) except in TX, FL, CO, OK, RI, NH, WV, OR, SC, VA and ID. These state residents will be charged one cent (\$.01) + shipping & processing for the item. Void where prohibited or restricted by law. Offer subject to state and local regulations. Not valid with any other offers and only while supplies last. This offer is limited to one item per shipping address. Free is only for customers who use the designated offer code.

THE BROTHERS FOREVER VIETNAM TRIBUTE PISTOL

Honoring the Unbreakable Bond between Vietnam Veterans

When duty called, they answered. Some were drafted, others enlisted. It didn't matter where they came from or how they got there, none of them could imagine what waited for them on the other side of the world. More than two million Americans served in the Vietnam War and the experience changed them forever.

Together, they fought against a relentless enemy in an unforgiving country. Some were wounded, some became prisoners of war, and others paid the ultimate price. In Vietnam, boys became men, men became warriors, and warriors became brothers. They built a bond of brotherhood that will never be broken.

Today when Vietnam Veterans gather at reunions, they share a bond that most of us will never know. Feelings. Stories. Secrets. Special moments. The true meaning of survival. And even though the war is part of history, they know what it's like to trust their life to the man beside them and be willing to lay theirs on the line for their brothers.

Proudly Remembering a Generation of Heroes

Today, we honor the members of this exclusive American brotherhood that stood together in service to America. America Remembers is proud to introduce the **Brothers Forever™ Vietnam Tribute Pistol**. Issued exclusively by America Remembers, this historic Tribute is a working Colt® Government Model® honoring the brotherhood of warriors among America's Armed Forces in Vietnam. Craftsmen commissioned specifically for this project by America Remembers decorate each pistol in sparkling 24-karat gold artwork on the elegant, nickel-embellished slide. Issued in a limited edition of 1,000 Tributes, this presentation firearm captures the loyalty, courage, and camaraderie of all the proud Americans who fought in Vietnam.

The Colt .45 – A Trusted Military Sidearm

In the battlegrounds of Vietnam, protecting each other was a serious responsibility that demanded reliable firearms, and in addition to their service rifles, many of the men relied on their sidearms for added protection. There was no better pistol for the job than the trusted Colt .45 military service pistol.

With the Colt .45, Vietnam Veterans share a connection with generations of American fighting men who came before them. With its flat slide and virtually indestructible design, the Colt .45 proved itself virtually unstopable in Vietnam, even under the toughest battlefield conditions. The Colt .45 was born for combat. As tough as the swamps, jungles, and rice paddies were in Vietnam, this pistol proved itself even tougher. To this day, it occupies a position of respect unparalleled in the world of military firearms.

Honor Vietnam Veterans with this Exclusive Offer

Only 1,000 of the Brothers Forever™ Vietnam Tribute Pistols will ever be produced. To be sure of acquiring the Tribute before the edition is fully subscribed, please place your reservation promptly. We will arrange delivery of your Tribute through

the licensed firearms dealer of your choice. If for any reason you are not completely satisfied with your Tribute, you may return it in original, unexpired condition within 30 days for a complete refund.

Whether you are a veteran who answered the call to duty in Vietnam, or you wish to honor your father, husband, brother, friend, or other family member, the Brothers Forever Vietnam Tribute Pistol is sure to become a cherished addition to your collection. Order your Brothers Forever Vietnam Tribute today and secure one of these fitting Tributes to those who heroically served our nation in Vietnam.

Few generations have faced a more daunting challenge than those who fought in Southeast Asia. When the nation called, they answered. They didn't hesitate to put their lives on the line and give everything in defense of freedom. As a nation, we owe them a tremendous amount of appreciation.

■ The Tribute features a set of stunning faux ivory grips decorated with a logo honoring the service of Vietnam Veterans. The grip features a trio of warrior silhouettes over an outline of Vietnam, encircled by the slogan, "Vietnam War: Ours Was a Noble Cause." All three figures represent the unbreakable bond between men in uniform.



■ The left side of the slide features banners reading, "None Could Have Done It Better," and "Brothers Forever," set among familiar scenes of warriors serving in Vietnam against a forest of bamboo. Bamboo is common in Vietnam and was included as a symbol of Vietnam on the Vietnam Service Medal which was awarded to those who served.

■ The center image features a group of warriors standing together. The man on the far left is carrying a portable radio and the soldier in the center carries a M60 machine gun slung over his shoulder. It didn't matter the assignment, from patrols through the remote jungle, or a tight-knit company defending a small firebase, you can sense the deep personal connection between the men. The image to the right features a fellow soldier attending an injured warrior. In tough situations, friendship, loyalty, and words of encouragement could keep hope alive.



■ The right side features two soldiers aiding a wounded comrade while another covers their backs with his M-16. The image captures the strength of a unit working as one. In the heat of battle men depend on each other. It's a special trust that only veterans can fully understand. Also featured are banners honoring those who served in Vietnam. When the nation called, they answered.

■ Each side features banners that read, "Lest We Forget," along with powerful icons familiar to any Vietnam Veteran. One features a set of dog tags, the gleaming metal identification tags of those who serve in America's military, and a pair of empty combat boots.



CALIBER: .45 ACP • MODEL: COLT® GOVERNMENT MODEL®

I wish to reserve ___ of the **"Brothers Forever Vietnam Tribute Pistol"** a working Colt .45 pistol, at the introductory price of \$1,995.* My deposit of \$195 per Tribute is enclosed. I wish to pay the balance at the rate of \$100 per month, no interest or carrying charges. Certificate of Authenticity included. Thirty-day return privilege.

*All orders are subject to acceptance and credit verification prior to shipment. Shipping and handling will be added to each order. Virginia residents please add sales tax.

☐ Check enclosed for \$ _____.
☐ Charge payment of \$ _____ to:
☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

No. _____ Exp. _____

Display Case

☐ I wish to reserve the optional, luxuriously lined, custom-made display case with locking glass lid. My payment of \$149* is enclosed or add to credit card.

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NRA SANCTIONED TOURNAMENTS

To be listed, **NRA must sanction matches by the 15th of the month, two months prior to the month of the magazine issue.** If you are interested in entering a tournament, contact the individual listed. For any cancellations or changes to this listing, please contact Shelly Kramer: (703) 267-1459; mkramer@nrahq.org, NRA Competitive Shooting Division.

2015 MIDWAYUSA & NRA BIANCHI CUP

**Columbia, MO
May 20-23, 2015**

The MidwayUSA & NRA Bianchi Cup is the most prestigious handgun tournament in the world. **Online registration is available now at <http://bianchicup.nra.org/>.** Competitors from all over come to Columbia, MO, to compete in this annual event. If you are interested in attending or competing, please call (877) 672-6282 ext. 5; bianchicup@nrahq.org; or write to: NRA Competitive Shooting Division, Attn: NRA Bianchi Cup, 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030. Please include your full mailing address. Be sure to check us out on [YouTube](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest Bianchi Cup news and updates.

2015 NATIONAL RIFLE & PISTOL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Camp Perry, OH

Jul. 7-12	Pistol Matches
Jul. 16-22	CMP High Power Rifle and Games Events
Jul. 23-28	NRA High Power Rifle and Mid-Range Championship
Jul. 29-Aug. 2	NRA Long-Range High Power Rifle Championship
Aug. 3-7	NRA Fullbore Championship
Aug. 7-14	World Target Rifle Palma Championship

Online Registration for the National Championships will be available in March 2015.

NATIONAL SMALLBORE RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIPS

**Bristol, IN
July 10-22, 2015**

Jul. 10-11	Metric 3-Position Championship
Jul. 12-13	Conventional 3-Position Championship
Jul. 15-18	Conventional Prone Championship
Jul. 21-22	Metric Prone Championship

NOTE: ALL competitors must have a classification card or classification from a recognized NGB.

The Championship Program will be available March 2, 2015 with **online registration** starting April 1, 2015, more information will follow. To request a written entry form and/or program please email hmood@nrahq.org or lwenzell@nrahq.org with your request, or submit a written request to Lois Wenzell, 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030. Entries will be taken up to 200 competitors per championship.

2015 NATIONAL SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Mar. 20-22	Air Rifle	Baton Rouge, LA
Jun. 29-Jul. 2	Cowboy Rifle	Raton, NM
Jul. 6-7	Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Scope	Raton, NM
Jul. 9-10	Black Powder Cartridge Rifle	Raton, NM
Aug. 2-4	Smallbore Rifle	Ridgway, PA
Aug. 6-8	High Power Rifle	Ridgway, PA
Sep. 21-26	Black Powder Target Rifle	Raton, NM

Program and entry cards will be available April 1, 2015.
Write now for yours and be sure to specify the Championship(s) you wish to attend. Write or call: NRA Silhouette Dept., 11250 Waples Mill Rd., Fairfax, VA 22030; (703) 267-1474 or silhouette@nrahq.org. ©

Download the entire Coming Events list

NRA MEMBER INFORMATION & BENEFITS

MEMBERSHIP ACCOUNT INFORMATION: (877) 672-2000

NRA Headquarters: (703) 267-1000

INTERNET ADDRESS: www.nra.org

MEMBER SERVICE (800) 672-3888

NRAstore.com (888) 607-6007

MEMBER PROGRAMS

Hertz Car Rental CDP# 166609

(800) 654-2200

AVIS Car Rental AWD# A832100

(800) 225-7094

NRA Endorsed Insurance Programs

(877) 672-3006

NRA Endorsed Prescription Plan

(888) 436-3700

NRA Endorsed Check Program

(888) 331-6767

NRA VISA Card

(866) NRA-VISA

NRA Real Estate/Relocation Services

(800) 593-2526

NRA Endorsed Moving Program

North American Van Lines (800) 524-5533

Allied Van Lines (800) 871-8864

INSTITUTE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Grassroots/Legislative Hotline

(800) 392-8683

OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT

(877) NRA-GIVE

THE NRA FOUNDATION (800) 423-6894

GIFT PLANNING (800) 672-4521

EDDIE EAGLE GUNSAFE PROGRAM

(800) 231-0752

FRIENDS OF NRA

(703) 267-1342

WOMEN ON TARGET

(800) 861-1166

REFUSE TO BE A VICTIM

(800) 861-1166

INSTRUCTOR/COACH

(703) 267-1500

COMPETITIVE SHOOTING

(703) 267-1468

FIELD OPERATIONS/RANGES

(877) 672-7264

GUN COLLECTOR PROGRAMS

(703) 267-1601

NRA AFFILIATED CLUBS

(800) NRA-CLUB

HUNTER SERVICES (703) 267-1500

LAW ENFORCEMENT

(703) 267-2640

NATIONAL FIREARMS MUSEUM

(703) 267-1600

EDUCATION & TRAINING

(703) 267-1500

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(703) 267-1595

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