

Newsletter

Utah State Rifle & Pistol Association

Member of the National Rifle Association and CMP

July 2016

<http://www.usrpa.org>

President's Message

2016 will be a year of change for everyone at the State Association. Elwood Powell has served the State Association for 20 years as president, and his hard work on behalf of the Association has been and continues to be very much appreciated.

At the January 2016 annual members meeting, I was elected president for a three year term. I have served as treasurer and membership chairman for the last three years, as well as Secretary-Treasurer for the State Association from 1977 to 1979. A growing family forced my withdrawal from Association management at that earlier time. After 40 years in the environmental chemistry field and my recent retirement, I am proud to be able to give back to the Association once again. I appreciate the good work of all our Committee chairs as I begin my term, one look at our 2016 shooting schedule in this issue will show you how busy they have been putting on smallbore, silhouette, high power, and pistol matches.

From my membership work, we assembled our first complete e-mail list of members so that we could contact you at minimum cost. Last January, we made our first ever electronic newsletter mailing to members for whom we had e-mail addresses (about 74% of our members).

Silhouette shooting is becoming more popular, and we will be holding our second annual NRA Approved Silhouette Championship at Perry, Utah in September, see our web site and newsletter for the upcoming dates and contact persons.

In May, 2016 Woody Powell and myself attended a public hearing put on by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regarding the 2012 and 2014 temporary land closures on the West side of Utah Lake along Redwood Road (Utah State Highway 68). The old gravel pits on the West side of the lake had become popular shooting areas for rifle, pistol and shotgun over the years. The closures resulted from the accumulation of "trigger trash" where shooters would use almost anything as a target, but would not clean up after themselves after they were done with target practice. A few wild shots were also the subject of complaints to the Utah County Sheriff's office, some striking occupied buildings. The community of Saratoga Springs was growing close to the shooting areas, and a misfired shot from a 30-06 could travel up to 5500 yards or 3.1 miles. With mounting complaints, there was no choice but to close these areas to shooting. A continuing problem however was that these closures just resulted in shifting shooting areas further south to non-fenced areas.

Some good news for shooters, however is that BLM has completed a land swap with Utah County, and Utah County Public Works. They are now in the design phase of completing a new target range with pistol, shotgun and rifle ranges to 300 yards known as Soldiers Pass. It is hoped that in the future, this range could be extended to 600 or even 1,000 yards. The State Association is working with Utah County to ensure the design of the new range meets National Rifle Association safety criteria spelled out in their 2012 Range Source Book. Following design completion, the range is expected to begin construction in the Spring of 2017.

Utah County plans to make the range “self policing.” There will be no range safety officers present to look after the range (and I guess no fees). Please encourage shooters using this range to shoot safely, and be responsible to pick up trash after they complete shooting. The future welfare of this range depends on the shooters who will use it.

In one other area, we are planning major improvements to the Wendover 1,000 yard range during 2016. An official NRA range safety assessment is in progress by an independent third party to give us a priority list of improvements for our Board to consider funding.

Larry Scanlan

Starting High Power Shooting

By Larry Scanlan

We would like to see more high power rifle shooters compete in 2016. This short article may give you some things to think about. If you haven't shot one of these matches before, check our the schedule in this newsletter or our

website and come out to visit a match. Bring a lunch, plenty of water, a spotting scope, ear protection, and a good camping chair. While you are there, be sure to follow a relay down to the target pits to watch the match from that perspective. There is plenty of time to talk with shooters in the pits. You wouldn't want to bother them while they are shooting.

In 1972 I shot my first several high power matches with a slinged Remington 30-06 sporter rifle with stripper clips for rapid fire. This was the rifle I used for deer hunting using my own reloads. High Power matches are shot under NRA rules. You can download the rulebook at <http://compete.nra.org/>.



F-Class and Sling shooters at Centerville, UT.

You will see several different rifle classifications in High Power shooting, depending on your preference and pocketbook. Service Rifles generally use iron sights, match rifles may have iron sights or scope sights. New in the last ten years are F-Class rifles which are used in the prone position (see picture above) and have a bipod or tripod on the front and a bag under the butt of the rifle in the back. If you think this sounds pretty easy, the scoring rings on the F-Class target are about ½ the size of conventional high power target.

We have three types of high power matches on our schedule: “across the course,” “mid range,” and long range on our schedule.

Across the course matches feature 20 shots slow fire at 200 yards Standing, 20 shots rapid fire at 200 yards sitting, 20 shots at 300 yards prone, and 20 shots slow fire prone at 600 yards. Shooters compete according to their abilities in 6 classes: Master unclassified, Marksman, Sharpshooter, Expert, Master, and High Master.

Master Unclassified	Need 120 shots to get an assigned classification. Another 240 shots on file with NRA in matches can change your classification.
Marksman	Below 84.0%
Sharpshooter	84.0 – 88.99%
Expert	89.00 - 93.99%
Master	94.00 – 96.99%
High Master	97.00 % or above

Mid range matches are 60 shots at 600 yards prone. Long range matches may be shot at 800, 900, or 1000 yards. Classifications have different percentage cutoffs for the prone position in mid range and long range. See the NRA rulebook for those details.

At our 1,000 yard matches, we may shoot at a steel gong in front of the target pit to find out if we are high or low on our sights. Usually someone will help spot your shots in the dirt. It’s fun to hear the steel gong ring when you hit it at 1,000 yards (see picture).



16 inch steel gong compared with 20 inch ten ring at Wendover 1000 yard range.

If you are more of pistol or silhouette shooter, there is something for you out there too. Be sure to follow all activity types in the monthly magazine which NRA publishes electronically on a monthly basis for free. Check out http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/nra/susa_201310/index.php to see what is going on (underscore character after “a” and before “2”).

We hope to see you at a match soon!

Wind Class Planned for New and Experienced Rifle Shooters

Scott Harris, a high master F-TR shooter from Scottsdale, Arizona has agreed to come to Utah to put on a Wind Class this October 22 and 23, 2016 at the Wendover Rifle Range. Stuart Mackey, a high master shooter and our High Power Chairman will also be involved with teaching the class. Harris was second overall in the 2015 Southwest Nationals F-TR class, but has just been shooting for the last six years.



Wind Reading Class.

After his big win in 2015, Scott had several people in the Phoenix area ask him if he would put on a wind class in 2016 before the Southwest Long Range Nationals. His first class at the Ben Avery range attracted 20 people with 2 hours a classroom discussion and then 4 hours on the firing line for participants. During the second weekend, Scott had 70 people show up to see his slide presentation and shoot. By the third week, strictly by word of mouth, Scott had 90 people attend his class.

Watch our web site and our e-mails for more information as the time approaches for this class.

MID-RANGE COMPETITION FOR TACTICAL (AR) RIFLE

By Will Smith

Conceptually, this new NRA Mid-Range (Prone) Tactical Rifle (AR) program is designed to provide an opportunity to shoot NRA Mid-Range Prone competition using semi-automatic rifles built on an “AR Platform” and equipment generally thought of as being “tactical” in design and use.

This is provisional for 3 years, and will then be looked at for modifications if needed.

Rifles will be of the “AR-Platform” variety, in any caliber from .223 Rem up to and including .308 Win. Barrels are not to exceed 20 inches in length, Rifle not to weigh more than 14 lbs.

Stock – Must be of the type and design commonly issued to and/or used by U.S. Military or U.S. Police. Stock may be straight (solid), folding, or collapsible. Competitive style stocks are prohibited. Tactical stocks with an adjustable cheek piece and/or an adjustable butt plate are permitted. Tactical adjustable stocks fitted with rear monopods are permitted but the rear monopod may not be used for support

The targets will be the same targets that are used for Service Rifle.

Telescopic sights that do not exceed 12 power, will be allowed, but are not required. Holographic, and electronic sights are permitted, Laser sights are prohibited.

Tactical Front Rest – A detachable and folding front bipod of the “Harris” type or, separate soft roll or soft front bag, all used directly on the ground are permitted. Mechanical/machine front rests and non-collapsible and/or mechanically adjustable bipods are prohibited. A front rest consisting of a back pack or range bag may be substituted, but only one such item may be used. The front rest, bipod or otherwise, must be in direct contact with the ground. No boards, mats, rugs, clothing, towels, or other devices may be used under the front rest.

Tactical Rear Rest – Use of a soft roll or soft rear bag without “ears” is permitted but not required. Rear rests consisting of one back pack or one or more items of clothing may be used. Solid, adjustable and/or rigid rests of all kinds are

prohibited F-Class-style rear bags with “ears” are prohibited

Tactical slings and sling systems specifically designed for tactical field applications with “AR Platform” tactical rifles may be used. Slings are not required. Competition style slings are prohibited.

In order to understand the spirit of this new sport one might think of this sport as “Prone Service Rifle with a bipod and a scope”. This IS NOT designed as another version of F-Class competition.

Southwest Long Range Nationals

In February of 2016, seven Utah shooters attended the 6th Annual Southwest Nationals in Phoenix, Arizona. Earl Best, Jim Foster, Elwood Powell, Steven Powell, Stuart Mackey, Larry Scanlan, and John Smith shot against some of the nation’s best prone long range shooters.



Elwood Powell takes aim at a 1,000 yard target with a few other shooters.

The event was held at the Ben Avery (formerly known as the Black Canyon) Range which has 100 firing points from 200 to 1000 yards. The event has been getting bigger every year, and this year with attendance over 400 had more high power shooters than we had at Camp Perry for the National Championships. The match was

run by long time high power veterans Middleton Tompkins and Michelle Gallagher, and the match just seems to get better every year. The Southwest Nationals are becoming the model that all other high power match sponsors seek to emulate.

Sponsors this year donated \$150,000 for prizes awards. With an match entrance fee running \$125 for five days of shooting, this works out to \$375 per shooter in prize money, so the sponsors such as Night Force Rifle Scopes and Berger Bullets are a really making the match interesting for every shooter. This year’s match included four relays, with two shooters in the pit for every target so that target service would be as good as possible.



Sponsors for 2016 Southwest Nationals

Shooters compete in one for three classes, Sling TR, F-TR, and F- Open. Steven Powell did very well on Wednesday shooting 4th High Master in the Mid Range match with 599-32x and Friday in the Palma Match, dropping only two points in a tricky wind, shooting 4th High Master with a 448-27x, and 16th overall in the three day grand aggregate with a 1231-60X. Jim Foster shot 1st Expert in the Mid Range with 584-20x.

If you enjoy long range shooting, put this match on your list for February of next year!

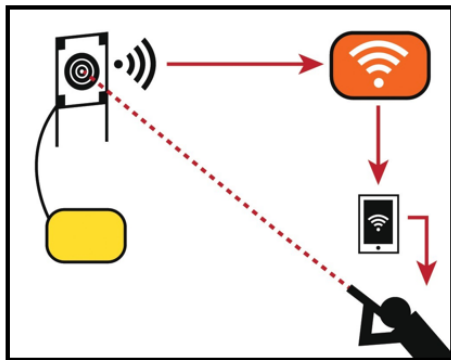


Southwest Nationals award ceremony.

Electronics Targets Coming on Utah Scene

By Larry Scanlan

I first saw electronic targets demonstrated at Camp Perry in August of 2015 and they caught my interest. There are several different designs now on the market, and High Power range in Wisconsin has converted their manual scoring system to electronic. While no ranges in Utah have yet gone electronic, some of our shooters are beginning to work with these systems. We had one system demonstrated to our long range shooters at Wendover in October of 2015.



systems use a television camera on the target, broadcasting the picture back to the firing line.

But sometimes with less than 30 caliber bullets, holes are difficult to see. Another system on the market uses four microphones that are placed at corners of a target, and are used to triangulate the position of the shot on the target face. The system only works for shots which are supersonic (>1150 feet per second) so it won't work for most pistol bullets but will work with most rifle bullets.

Just like dropping a stone into water, the sound wave of the bullet will arrive at one microphone ahead of the others depending on the position of the shot. The computer at the target pit calculates the position of the shot based on the time of the sound wave arrival at each microphone and broadcasts the shot location over Wi-Fi back to the firing line. Any cell phone, tablet or laptop computer that has a Web browser can be used to pick up the Wi-Fi signal and display its position on a simulated target at the firing line.



Calibrating the shot hole location on the target.

While current systems are rather expensive, price is expected to drop with time, just as they have for flat screen televisions over the last several years. The utility of these systems allows a single person to practice target shooting without a partner in the target pits. When wind conditions are rapidly changing in long range shooting, fast target scoring is essential for a shooter to keep up with the wind. But the best target puller at the range could not beat the

scoring speed of an electronic system. Expect to see more of these systems at our matches in Utah!

We Need Newsletter Articles

Describe you most recent shooting adventures for our readers. Pistol shooters, we need more articles from you!

Issue **Due Date**

September August 15

December Nov 18

Send articles to Lance Brown at lrbrown@g.com, Thanks for your help!

2016 Shooting Schedule

For more information, contact Larry Scanlan at larryscanlan@msn.com or Visit <http://www.usrpa.org>

July		Sunset 9:03		
1-2	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	1630	Rich Sheya
2	CMP Sporter (22LR) State Championship	Centerville	0800	Ernie Gardner
2	High Power/BPCR Silhouette	Perry	0800	Eric Halter
7	CMP Sporter (22LR)	Centerville	1830	Ernie Gardner
7	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
8	USRPA	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey
	State High Power/Optics Championship			
9	USRPA	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey
	State Service Rifle Championship			
9	Pistol-Weber Co.	Ogden	0800	Robert Maust
10	USRPA	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey EIC Match
14	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
16	Midrange	Centerville	0800	Skeeter Gehring
21	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
23	200 Yard Smallbore Prone	Centerville	0900	Jim Foster
28	UPMS – Pistol League	U OF U NROTC	1730	Rich Sheya

30	NRA Club Championship	Centerville	0800	Jim Foster
Aug Sunset 8:42				
4	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
4	CMP Sporter (22LR)	Centerville	1830	Ernie Gardner
5-6	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	1630	Rich Sheya
6	Midrange	Centerville	0800	Elwood Powell
6	High Power/BPCR Silhouette	Perry	0800	Eric Halter
11	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
13	Pistol-Weber Co.	Ogden	0800	Robert Maust
13	200 Yard Smallbore	Centerville	0900	Jim Foster
13				
18	CMP Sporter (22LR)	Centerville	1830	Ernie Gardner
18	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
20	Midrange	Centerville	0800	Elwood Powell
25	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
27-28	Wind Reading Class with Scott Harris	Wendover	0900	Stuart Mackey
27	Open Range	Centerville	0900	
Sep Sunset 7:59				
1	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
1-4	Utah State BPCR Silhouette State Chmp.	Perry-Three M	0800	Eric Halter
2-3	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	1630	Rich Sheya
3	High Power Across the Course	Centerville	0900	Skeeter Gehring
8	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
10	ViMBAR-LR Buffalo	Promontory	0800	Denny Wilcox
10	Midrange	Centerville	0900	Will Smith
10	Pistol-Weber Co.	Ogden	0800	Robert Maust
15	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
16	USRPA - LR Practice	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey
17	USRPA- LR Regional	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey
17	Open Range	Centerville	0900	
16-18	USRPA- LR Regional	Wendover	0800	Stuart Mackey
22	UPMS – Pistol League	Hendricksen	1730	Rich Sheya
30	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	1630	Rich Sheya
Oct Sunset 7:09				
1	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	0800	Rich Sheya
1	NRA Sporting Rifle Championship	Centerville	0900	Will Smith
8	Pistol-Weber Co.	Ogden	0800	Robert Maust
8	Open Range	Centerville	0900	
15	Midrange	Centerville	0900	Will Smith
22	USRPA -LR	Wendover	0900	Stuart Mackey
23	USRPA -Fullbore	Wendover	0900	Stuart Mackey

29	Vintage Sniper	Centerville	0900	Will Smith
Nov				
4-5	UPMS – Pistol MTLY PTO	U of U NROTC	1630	Rich Sheya
4	High Power Across the Course	Centerville	0900	Will Smith
12	USRPA-LR	Wendover	0900	Stuart Mackey (Weather Permitting)
19	Midrange	Centerville	0900	Will Smith (Weather Permitting)

2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expiration Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>
Larry Scanlan (801) 391-4665 e-mail: LarryScanlan@msn.com	2018	President Web Master Membership
Elwood P. Powell (801) 499-9763 e-mail: 1dpowell@sisna.com	2018	Director Past President
Howard Andrews (801) 973-7822 e-mail: princede@aol.com	2018	Director Range Development Coordinator
Eric Halter (801) 791-1837 Email: hhsharps@aol.com	2018	Director Web Committee Silhouette Chairman
Brent McNee (801) 891-3123 hardball@q.com	2018	Director Pistol Committee
Devin Brown (801) 576-2508 e-mail: masterchief203@yahoo.com	2018	Treasurer
Francine Mackey (801) 638-2295	2017	Director Secretary

e-mail: Francine.Mackey@Franklin.Covey.com

Ruland Gill (801) 803-9700 e-mail: ruland.gill@gmail.com	2017	Director Legal Advisor
Will Smith (801) 589-5825 (c) e-mail: utahrifleshooter@gmail.com	2017	Director
Matt DeLong (801) 580-7246 (c) e-mail: delong@physics.utah.ed	2016	Director Executive Officer Pistol Chairman
Leonard Wojcik (801) 272-1813 e-mail: leonard@wojciktech.com	2016	Director Range Development
Lance Brown (801) 576-2508 (h) e-mail: lrbrown@q.com	2016	Director Newsletter Editor
Stuart Mackey (801) 499-6608 (c) e-mail: stumack65@msn.com	2016	Director High Power Chairman
Jim Foster (801) 231-3757 (c) e-mail: jtfoster@comcast.net	2016	Vice President Junior Chairman

Members At Large:

Eric Smith
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ewsmith308@gmail.com

John H. Smith
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Terry Johnston
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Robert Maust
Phone: (801) 380-7902
e-mail: slcbullseye@outlook.com

Assistant Junior Chairman
Junior Coach

Range Improvements
Publicity

Logan Match Director

Pistol Match Director

USRPA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ ST _____

ZIP Code _____

Are you an NRA member? Yes ____ No ____

If Joining the NRA, Use NRA ID No. T0028, Club Sale No. C004273D

Age _____ Birthday _____

Home Phone _____

Email: _____

Membership Classification - Please Check

NEW

Renewal

Annual (\$25.00)

3 Year (\$65.00)

5 Year (\$95.00)

Junior (\$10.00)

Junior Club (\$20.00)

Senior Club (\$40.00)

Life Membership (\$200.00)

Senior Life (\$125.00 if over 60)

Junior Life (\$125.00 if under 21)

I am interested in the following activities

High Power Small Bore

Hunting Collector

Muzzleloader Police Combat

Bench Rest Pistol

Reloading

THIS STATEMENT MUST BE SIGNED

I certify that I am a citizen of the United States; that I am not a member of any organization which has as any part of its program the attempt to overthrow the government of the United States by force or violence; that I have never been convicted of a crime of violence; and that if admitted to membership I will fulfill the obligation of good sportsmanship and good citizenship.

Signature _____

Make checks payable to: Utah State Rifle and Pistol Association

Mail Payment and application to:

USRPA Memberships

Larry Scanlan

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Sandy, UT 84092