



# AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION  
P.O. BOX 52025; FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31995-2025

APRIL 1995

Issue Number III

## What's Inside

AMUA President's Report  
..... Page 2

Annual AMUA Meeting  
..... Page 2

Treasurer's Report  
..... Page 2

From The Commander  
..... Page 3

Historical Committee  
..... Page 3

Section Quarter Updates  
..... Page 4

Pan Am Memories  
..... Page 5

## America's Finest

Among this quarter's individual accomplishments within the USAMU are the following:

■ Pvt. Sally Talbott of the Service Pistol Team broke both the junior and women's national record scores.

■ Cpl. Barry Coleman of the Service Rifle Team fired a near-perfect score at a 600-yard target using an M-16.

■ Sgt. Steven Armstrong of the Service Rifle Team finished first on the National Match Course. He competed against 80 marksmen from Florida, Georgia, and Alabama.



Cpl. Ken Johnson and Captains Glenn Dubis and Rob Harbison (from left to right) of the International Rifle Team pulled in a combined

total of eight gold medals during the Pan American Games. Here they receive the gold for the Air Rifle Team competition.

## Taking the Gold

Pan American Games competition no match for USAMU marksmen

USAMU PAO

Soldiers from the United States Army Marksmanship Unit dominated Pan American Games marksmanship competition March 14-20 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The twelve USAMU marksmen who participated in the games, a preliminary to the 1996 Olympic Games to be held in Atlanta, won a total of 19 medals -- twelve gold, five silver, and two bronze.

Following is a list of USAMU athletes

and their accomplishments:

Capt. Rob Harbison, International Rifle Team: Free Rifle 50M Prone, Gold, Individual; Standard Rifle 300M 3-Position, Gold, Individual; Air Rifle, Gold, Team; 300M Standard Rifle 3-Position, Gold, Team

Cpl. Ken Johnson, International Rifle Team: Air Rifle, Gold, Individual; Air Rifle, Gold, Team; Free Rifle 300M 3-Position, Gold, Individual

Capt. Web Wright, International Rifle Team: Free Rifle 300M Prone, Gold, Individual

Maj. Steve Goff, International Rifle Team: Free Rifle 300M 3-Position, Silver,

See Pan Am, Page 3



# PRESIDENT'S REPORT: 40th AMU Reunion Plans in the Works

Bill Blankenship

The first annual meeting of the AMU Association was held at the Tommy G. Pool International Shooting Complex Jan. 27, 1995. The purpose of the meeting was to nominate and elect officers for 1995, present an award for the outstanding shooter of 1994, Capt. Glen Dubis, and to brief the members present of the association's accomplishments in 1994.

## Normal Business

Normal business was conducted such as reading and approving the minutes of the last meeting, the treasurer's report given and approved, and a basic report of the year. The floor was opened for nomination of new officers and Willis Powell moved that current officers continue in office for another year. The motion was seconded by Lloyd Crow and carried by unanimous vote.

## Membership

I must say to you all that the association has had a good year. Our membership has grown to around 350, and our treasury is in sound condition, even after we have sent two newsletters and a

roster to our members (one newsletter to all the former members of the AMU that we had addresses for). If you see someone missing from the roster, or see someone you know who is not a member and should be, tell them the association needs and will appreciate their support. In the future, we will have to limit our mailings to just our members.

## Annual Dues

Our annual dues are still \$15 for new members and \$10 for renewals. The \$5 in the first year's dues will be set aside to defray the costs associated with our 40th reunion which will be held Aug. 16-18, 1996.

## Reunion

For the reunion, our activities chairman, Willis Powell, and his committee will be planning the festivities in cooperation with the soldiers and civilians of the AMU.

If you have any suggestions, please write Powell or myself. Tentative plans as of this date include a dinner to honor the new inductees into the AMU Hall of Fame, the dedication of the building to honor Col. Thomas J. Sharpe, deceased,

and to have the normal festivities associated with a reunion of members and former members of a great unit with an outstanding history.

Next year will be an important year especially because of the reunion. We need and solicit your help in rebuilding the history of the Army Marksmanship Unit. If you have pictures, copies of news articles, photos of individuals or teams, send us copies or the actual materials with instructions of how to handle, to help rebuild the history.

## Committees

Bonnie Harmon has been appointed the committee chairman of the historical committee which will have a representative from each of the sections of the unit, either an active or former member.

I'm sure that Bonnie will appreciate your help.

Lt. Col (Ret.) J. Carter Berry has been appointed chairman of the public affairs committee and with his committee members will be producing our newsletters. Any news or items of importance would be appreciated. My thanks to the AMU and the AMUA for their support.

## Treasurer's Report

AMUA

As of 31 December 1994, the Association operating balance was \$4,068.32. An additional \$1,825 is reserved for the 40th Reunion. Income was derived from dues, renewals, and donations.

Expenses totaled \$1,336.68 for administration supplies, P.O. box rental, printing and mailing of "AMUA Times" and AMUA directory and copying services.

As of 31 December 1994 there were 287 members. As of 31 March 1995, 78 new members were added. Members are encouraged to send in renewals before we have to send notice. Money we save in postage will benefit the Association.

## Issues Resolved During Annual AMUA Meeting

AMUA

the 40th Reunion.

■ The Association's first annual meeting was held 27 January 1995.

■ Briefings were given by President Bill Blankenship and Colonel Mac Johnson, Commander USAMU.

■ Our Executive Committee was reinstated by unanimous vote.

■ Membership approved expenditure, if necessary, for as much as 25% of the operating budget for

■ Bill Blankenship presented the "AMUA Shooter of the Year" award. Bill Krilling accepted on behalf of Glenn Dubis who was away for competition.

■ Refreshments, provided by the Executive Committee and other members, were enjoyed by all.

■ Start planning now to attend next year's meeting in January. More information will be provided as it becomes available.



# From the Commander: Marksmanship Unit Soldiers on the Move

Col. L.M. Johnson, Jr.

As I sit here writing this, your Marksmanship Unit is hosting the Interservice International Pistol Championships, a shotgun National Team Selection Match, and National Team try-outs for the United States Olympic Festival. Twelve of our soldier athletes just returned from the Pan American Games with nineteen medals and the Service Pistol team just won the center fire team match during the Interservice International Pistol matches. It is this frenetic pace set by such dedicated athletes that makes this job so exciting.

If you have been out of the USAMU for more than a few years, the biggest single difference in today's Unit from

*Today our shooters are  
young, talented, unafraid  
of competition,  
and hungry.*

-- Col. Lory M. Johnson, Jr.

the old one would probably be age. In the "good old days," Service Rifle was home for the older guys and International Rifle was mostly college kids. Today, the average age of shooters in Service Rifle is 26 whereas in International Rifle it is 30. This example generally holds true across the Unit. With the demise of the various Marksmanship Training Units and detachments in 1991, the farm system that had provided older, more experienced shooters disappeared. Today our shooters are young, talented, unafraid of competition, and hungry.

As of this date, our official transfer

from Forces Command to the Army staff has not taken place. Unofficially, however, we have been working directly for the Army staff since March 1, 1995. Within the next six months, we will actually receive an Army General Order making the transfer official.

Development of a separate Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) for our shooters and gunsmiths is proceeding much slower than any of us like, but is moving ahead.

We should know by late May what the future holds for this action.

As you will no doubt read elsewhere in this newsletter, the Army Marksmanship Unit Association has decided upon 16-18 August 1996 as

the dates for the 40th Anniversary Reunion. They are working on an agenda for that event and we look forward to it. The Unit's Chief of Competition, D.I. Boyd, is going to ask all match/event schedulers to keep this week open to avoid conflicts for Army shooters.

In closing, let me say thanks once again to all the volunteers who made the first year of the AMUA a success. The history, traditions, and future of Army competitive shooting needs this organization in order to survive. My sincere appreciation to all the members and especially to the initial slate of officers.

## Executive Committee Voted In

AMUA

The Executive Committee of AMUA was reinstated by unanimous vote at the first annual meeting.

Congratulations to the following:

**President --** William B. Blankenship

**Vice President --** Joseph E. Watson

**Treasurer --** Gordon "Jack" D. Horner

**Recording Secretary --** Leonard R. Robinson

## Historical Committee Restores AMU Past

Bonnie Harmon

A lot of thought, time, and effort has gone into the AMUA and on 5 April 1995, the Historical Committee got down to the monumental task of attempting to bring back and restoring the shooting history of an extraordinary military unit, the United States Army Marksmanship Unit.

After having lunch at the Fort Benning Golf Course, (Wiener Schnitzel) we got down to physical work. The first thing we did was to define what the Historical Committee actually does. The main function is to restore the historical time frame of 1956 to present.

We found plenty of historical memorabilia in the USAMU attic once we made it up those extremely steep steps. We reached back in the dusty history and retrieved hundreds of NRA magazines, "The American Rifleman," dating back to 1932. We relocated the magazines downstairs

See History, Page 6

## Pan Am from Page 1

Individual; 300M Standard Rifle 3-Position, Gold, Team

Sgt. Bret Erickson, Shotgun Team: Trap, Silver, Individual; Trap, Gold, Team; Doubles Trap, Silver, Team

Maj. Wanda Jewell, International Rifle Team: Standard Rifle 3-Position,

Bronze, Individual; Standard Rifle 50M Prone, Silver, Team

Capt. Glenn Dubis: Air Rifle, Bronze, Individual; Air Rifle, Gold, Team; Cpl. Sandra Utasy: Air Pistol, Gold, Team

Cpl. Daryl Szarenski, Free Pistol 50M, Silver, Team



# Section Updates

## Action Pistol/Service Pistol

The new year has brought about some new changes. PV2 Sally Talbott was assigned in January and since has been black hat qualified and set a Gallery short course record in the junior category. The new year also brought in Ray Arredondo, the new coach in the service/action pistol section. The service/action pistol section lost Jonathan Frazier (previous coach) and SFC Gary Marsh (competitor). SFC Michael Lane is the new NCOIC replacing MSG Wesley Vaughn.

## International Rifle

CPT Glenn Dubis won the Gold Medal in the Men's 3 Position at the Rocky Mountain Invitational in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

The USAMU International Rifle Section had a successful trip at the 1995 Pan Am Games in Argentina. CPL Ken Johnson won the Gold Medal in the Air Rifle competition. CPT Glenn Dubis took the Bronze Medal. The Air Rifle team also took the team Gold Medal.

CPT Robert Harbison took the Gold in the 50m Small Bore English match. MAJ Wanda Jewell won the bronze medal in the ladies' three position.

In the Men's Rifle competition, CPL Ken Johnson fired a 1169/1200 for a Gold Medal in the 300m Free Rifle 3X40, just a few points off a world record, he set a new Pan American record. MAJ Steve Goff finished with 1163 in the 3X40 taking the Silver Medal.

CPT Web Wright took the Gold Medal with 592/600 shooting the 300m Free Prone. CPT Robert Harbison won the Gold Medal in the 300m Standard Rifle with a score of 588 which set a new Pan American record and would have set a new world record if five countries would have participated.

## Service Rifle

Since the 1994 National Matches, the Service Rifle Team has completely changed over to the M-16 rifle. The team has been very successful with the M-16, in fact, they have been practically dominating the highpower world.

The Service Rifle Team competed in the 3rd annual Mini-Interservice Matches in Okeechobee, Fla., where SPC Barry Coleman crushed the entire field of shooters during the 600 yd. Any-Any match by shooting an outstanding 200/16x. This by the way was done with the M-16. In Starke, Fla., at the Snowbird Open, there was a three way tie for first place. Using tie breaking procedures, SFC Kenneth Gill came out on top.

CPL Grant Singley was 2nd and CPL Kevin McMahon was 3rd. There was also a double string 600 yd. Any-Any match fired in which once again the mighty M-16 prevailed. CPL Singley fired a pair of 200's with 11x's for a total of 400/22x. This was the only 400 shot on the range that day.

The Georgia Regional was fired the March 24-26.

CPL Singley took top honors with a great score of 790/23x. SGT Steven Armstrong won the EIC match which also makes him distinguished now.

In the team match, USAMU took the top three places.

The team is continuing to train really hard under our new head coach Mr. Frank Briggs. The team and Mr. Briggs are looking forward to a winning year in 1995.

## Shotgun

Along with the new year comes the new shooting season and the AMU shotgun shooters have picked up the pace with a vengeance.

Late January, early February found

the trap and skeet teams in California for the Maple Leaf Shoot in San Diego and also for the Golden Bear Match in Chino.

SGT Bret Erickson won the Golden Bear single trap match and took second at the Maple Leaf. SGT Terri Wentzel was High Lady at the Maple Leaf single trap match and took a second-place finish in the double trap match at the Golden Bear.

SGT Todd Graves won the Golden Bear skeet match.

On the road again in late February, the teams ventured into "Gator" country -- Gainesville, Fla. -- for the Zone 3 Championships.

The trap, double trap, and skeet teams each took first and second, respectively, in their events: SGT Erickson and SPC Danny White in trap; SGT Wentzel and PFC Joetta Novinski in women's double trap; SPC Joe Buffa and SGT Shawn Dulohery in skeet.

March found most of the shotgun team in San Antonio, Tx., for the Zone 8 Championships, where they again met with success.

First-place finishes include SGT Dulohery in skeet, PFC Joe Winnicki in double trap and PFC Novinski in women's double trap.

Of the dozen AMU shooters representing the United States at the Pan American Games in Argentina, three were shotgun shooters.

Those shooters were sergeants Erickson, Graves, and Wentzel.

Under the heat of a South American sun, SGT Erickson was able to shoot his way to an individual silver and a team gold medal in the trap event and a team silver in the double trap. SGT Wentzel also did well. She brought home the gold in women's double trap.

We are proud of our team and look forward to doing well in upcoming competitions.



*USAMU athletes bring home ...*

## **Pan Am Memories**

USAMU PAO

Not only did United States Army Marksmanship Unit Pan American Games athletes bring home 19 medals, they also brought home memories.

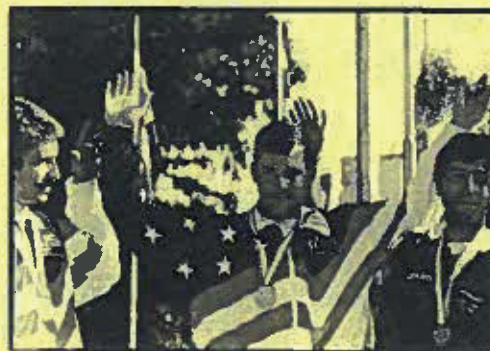
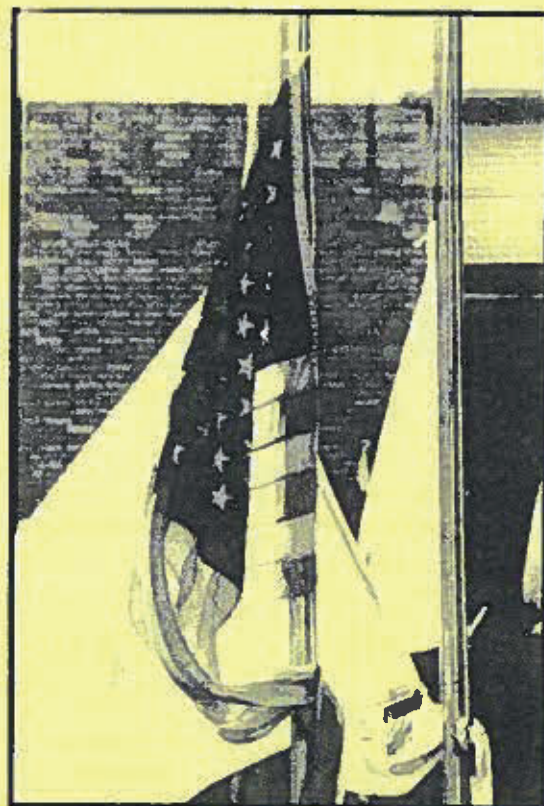
Memories of the thrill of competition, the camaraderie shared between winners, and the joy of returning home to supportive friends and loved ones.

But as these athletes, and

other USAMU marksmen have learned, striving to attain the level of excellence needed for international competition does not come easily.

Hard work and training, but most importantly dedication, have brought these shooters to where they are today.

And years from now they'll remember standing in the winner's spotlight



Photos by Rhonda Syler

(Top Right) The American flag is prepared to be raised during an awards ceremony. (Above) SGT Bret Erickson displays the concentration that helped him get to the Pan American Games. (Far Left) MAJ Wanda Jewell honors the flag. (Left) CAPT Rob Harbison rejoices in winning the gold.



## History

### from Page 3

for maintenance and or replacements. The books must be cleaned and placed in book binders by the year. Each page must be looked at for wholeness.

The first Tuesday of each month at the Golf Course at 11:30, the Historical Committee has a meeting. We discuss future tasks, the next one being identify pictures. The AMUA needs memorabilia to rebuild the history of the AMUA. Newspaper articles, magazines, and pictures will be sent back to you.

Pictures must be of historical value or of events pertaining to marksmanship, people, events, places, and things. Example: Olympic, Pan Am Games, National-level championships, Interservice, and All-Army Teams and individual matches. Pictures must have: Who is in the picture, what year, and what event. Pictures that cannot be identified will not be used.

I would like to thank Coats Brown for his extraordinary skills in artistic penmanship in restoring many of the large year books with hundreds of newspaper clippings. A special thanks to Oscar Weinmeister for loaning four large photo albums and to those committee members whose knees became weak from going up and down those attic steps.

## Section Updates

### from Page 4

#### Running Target

The Army Marksmanship Unit Running Target Team has been doing well in competition this quarter. During the Crossman Championship in Canada, SPC Shane Buffa took the Gold, and SSG Kenneth Jones took the Silver in the 10M Running Target competition. SSG Jones also took the Gold in the team event.

1994 Nationals, CPT Michael Johnson was a Silver Medalist in 50M 30X30, and 10M Mixed. CPT Johnson also made the Pan American Games USA Team in 10M 30X30. During the Arkansas State Championships CPT Johnson took the Gold in 10M and 50M events. SPC Buffa won the Silver.

#### International Pistol

March found the International Pistol Team in Vancouver, British Columbia for a three-course event in men's and women's air pistol. Winning the men's event was SPC Chad Harreld while CPL Amy Szarenski won the women's event.

CISM tryouts were held at the end of March and CPT Rhonda Bright won the women's tryout. CPT Dan Kaseberg was the winner of the men's tryout.

CPL Amy Szarenski was silver medalist in the Interservice women's sport pistol competition. CPT Bright was silver in women's air pistol, CPL Daryl Szarenski placed second in mens' air.

**Army Marksmanship Unit Association**  
**P.O. Box 52025**  
**Ft. Benning, Ga. 31995-2025**