



# AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION

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Photo by USAMU PAO

Hall of Fame inductees were presented a medallion and commemorative unit coin honoring their selection. Honorees (Left to Right) Loyd Crow, Jeremiah McKenzie, Nancy Pool (Tommy Pool's widow) and Lones Wigger, pose for a group photo. LTG (Ret) Carmen Cavezza, far right, was the guest speaker.

## Quartet Inducted Into Hall of Fame

*USAMU Hall of Fame: Four additional members inducted at the USAMU 40th Reunion*

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Four new members were enshrined in the USAMU Hall of Fame on 17 August. Master Sergeant Loyd G. Crow, Jr., Colonel Jeremiah M. McKenzie, Lieutenant Colonel Tommy G. Pool, and Lieutenant Colonel Lones W. Wigger, Jr., joined the initial seven inductees as the elite of the elite.

Loyd Crow was the 1961 and 1963 World Champion in Running Deer. He won two silver medals in the 1969 World Moving Target Championships and won two silver medals and one bronze medal in the 1970 World Shooting Championships.

Jeremiah McKenzie was the USAMU Executive Officer 1964-1969 and the Deputy Commander and Chief, Support Division 1974-1986. From 1964 through 1986, he was the Director of the Small Arms Firing School at the National Matches. In 1983, he was the Project Manager for design and construction of the Pool Shooting Complex.

Tommy Pool won a gold medal and two bronze medals in the 1962 World Shooting Championships. In the 1964 Olympic Games, he won a bronze medal in the 50 meter English Match Prone.

Lones Wigger won a silver and a gold medal in the 1964 Olympics and a gold medal in the 1972 Olympics. He won a bronze medal and silver medal in the 1970 World Shooting Championships. He won a gold, two silver, and one bronze medal in both the

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# PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Bill Blankenship

What a wonderful weekend! How great to see again men and women you have competed with, against the finest teams in the world and in the United States. The reunion was in my opinion a huge success.

How very special to watch individuals get together, thrilled to see each other again, and to listen to the stories being told of great times together travelling throughout the world on teams representing the United States and the U.S. Army. Stories were told of medals won, both individual and team, at Olympics, World Championships, Pan American Games, and at other international competitions. Service Rifle shooters were telling stories of teams training in Nicaragua, of matches won, records being set, and it was very obvious the friendships were alive and well after all these years. A group from the pistol team wanting to and eventually taking a picture of the team that shot a number of team records as well as a score of 3545 3-gun team score which has never been equalled. The shotgunners were of course around the little house on the hill renewing old friendships and telling stories of days gone by and getting acquainted with the men and women on the team today.

And then there are the people other than the shooters at the headquarters, the supply, and especially the people of the shop, who have supported the shooters all these years. At the AMU shop, there were guns made or fitted to individual shooters that made it possible to shoot the scores necessary to win and to set the records. All those people were and are now a very special part of the team of people who make up the Army Marksmanship Unit. From the beginning until

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## Inductees

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1974 and 1978 World Shooting Championships. In the 1982 World Shooting Championships he won a silver and a bronze medal.

The induction ceremony was held at the Fort Benning NCO Club. Approximately 300 guests attended the ceremony. LTG (Ret) Carmen Cavezza was guest speaker for the ceremony. Other honored guest included BG John G. Meyer, and Colonel Gregory Camp. Initial Hall of Fame inductees attending included Gary Anderson, Bill Blankenship, Coats Brown, Barbara Hile, and James McQuien. Joe Benner and Margaret Murdock were unable to attend.

# COMMANDER'S REPORT:

*The 1996 Shooting Season is now History,  
the USAMU 40th Reunion a Success*

Colonel Alan D. Fenty

The 1996 shooting season is now history. The final major competition is the CISM Championships that are being held in Skovde, Sweden. We have a strong team and will represent DOD well. CISM has changed since some of you represented the U.S. With the breakup of the Soviet Union, CISM now has over 108 countries which actively participate. It is still a very difficult competition with a lot of new faces joining annually.

Your USAMU has accomplished a tremendous amount during this year and space does not allow me to list all of these, but I'd like to just mention a few of the June - August accomplishments.

There were seven past members of the USAMU and two current (CPT Glenn Dubis and Laurence "Red" Mosely) chosen to carry the Olympic Torch on its journey to Atlanta. USAMU placed seven soldiers on the 1996 Olympic Team. We did not win a medal but you can be sure each soldier gave forth their best effort. SGT Terri Devitt, (Ladies Double Trap), finished fourth in her event and CPT Rob Harbison made the final round in both air rifle and 50 meter 3X40. While the Olympics were going on, IR was also competing at Camp Perry. They won everything in sight—all prone and position team matches as well as each major individual aggregate. Not to be outdone, the Service Rifle Team, under Coach Frank Briggs, dominated the Service Rifle Interservice Competition. By winning the 10 man team match and Infantry Trophy as well as SGT Grant Singley's individual aggregate win, the Service Rifle Team notched up big wins for the Army. The only thing they could do to top that performance was to travel to Camp Perry and win the Service Rifle Individual Championships (SGT Singley) and break their week old National Record in Infantry Trophy by shooting a 1462. Just as the USAMU Gunsmith Shop has redesigned the M16A2, it has been working to make the 9MM Beretta into a quality center fire pistol. At the 1996 Service Pistol Interservice Championships, SPC Dianna Dzek placed second in the Leg match, using a USAMU improved 9MM. I will report to you further on our progress of this pistol shortly. Shotgun also shined by having SPC Joe Buffa win the National Skeet Championships and SPC Joetta

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(Top) Mrs. Naomi Sharpe and BG John G. Meyer unveiled the portrait of Col Thomas J. Sharpe II under the guard of SSG Lance Dement and SSG Charles Hearlth.

(Center) Mrs. Naomi Sharpe accompanied by family members cuts the ribbon officially opening Sharpe Hall with Col Alan D. Fenty and BG John G. Meyer.

(Bottom) Mrs. Naomi Sharpe and family members pose in front of portrait of Col Sharpe in foyer of Sharpe Hall.

Photos by USAMU PAO



## Colonel Thomas J. Sharpe II Honored

*USAMU Headquarters Now Known As Sharpe Hall*

AMUA

The United States Army Marksmanship Unit headquarters was dedicated as Sharpe Hall at a ceremony on August 18th. The building was named in honor of Colonel Thomas J. Sharpe II, former Commander of the unit.

Colonel Sharpe, assigned to the marksmanship unit in 1956, was instrumental in getting the unit started. It was from his vision,

genius, charismatic leadership, and determination that the unit was born. In the 1964 Olympics, as the team captain, he led the marksmanship unit to two gold, two silver, and three bronze medals.

BG John G. Meyer, Jr., Commander of United States Army Community and Family Support Center (USAMU higher headquarters), was the guest speaker for the ceremony. Colonel Sharpe's widow, Naomi Sharpe, was a special guest and aided in unveiling a portrait of Colonel Sharpe and cutting the ribbon to officially dedicate the building and open it up for viewing by the attending crowd. During the ceremony the sign dedicating the headquarters was unveiled and a bronze plaque designating the building as Sharpe Hall was uncovered.



# Reunion Fish Fry: Good Food, Good Crowd

*A Large Crowd Gathered at the Pecan Grove for Registration and Eats*

AMUA

The USAMU 40th Reunion got off to an energetic start with registration and a fish fry on August 16th. Over 400 attended the festivities at Phillips Range/Pecan Grove.

Willis Powell assembled an auspicious cooking crew to prepare the afternoon's vittles. Fish frying expertise was demonstrated by Shelva Smith, Wayne Young, and Roy Combs. Clyde Malphus congered up an impromptu recipe for baked beans and Norm Skarpness prepared hush puppies. Loyd Crow smoked dove breasts and prepared pheasant nuggets the day before and brought them for all to enjoy. Bob Robinson slaved over a hot oven for hours preparing over 300 cookies for the event. Master Chef Bill Blankenship presided over the hotdog grill and kept the dogs hot and rolling during the afternoon. The cooking crew assembled early and began diligent preparations as guests began filtering in for the registration and festivities. The registration booth was manned by Laurence "Red" Mosely, Wanda Jewell, Nancy Pool, Bonnie Harmon, and Roman Wojciechowski.

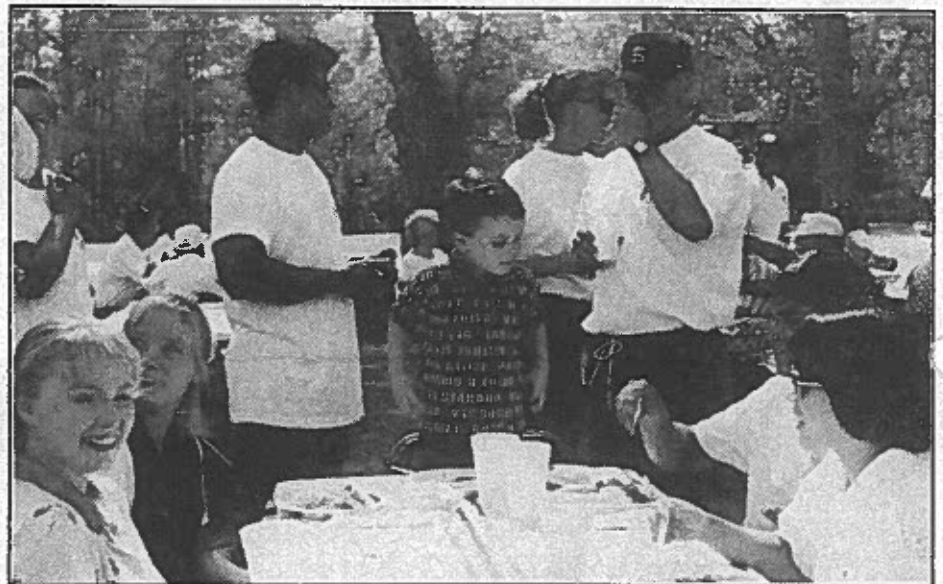
MG Carl Ernst, Commander of Fort Benning, was a special guest of Colonel Alan D. Fenty. During the course of the festivities awards were presented. Alex Marchioli won the most distance traveled award for coming all the way from Belgium. Also, Bob Robinson, at 81 years of age, was the oldest attendee.

(Center) Left to Right, Shane Buffa, Mendy Alcoriza, Lisi Fatu, Jordan Alcoriza, Joetta Novinski, Brian Keever, David Alcoriza, and Sandra Utasy share food and laughter.

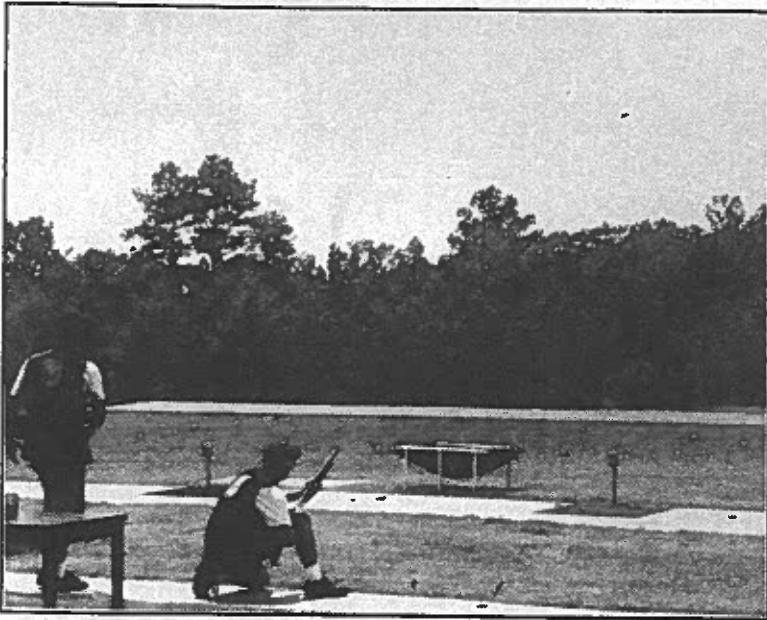
(Bottom) Members of the 1956 shooting crew gather in the Pecan Grove.



(Left to Right) Robert Whitacre, Bill Blankenship, Merriweather Jones, and Emil Heugatter reprise a record setting moment.







Todd Graves exhibits an unusual shooting style at targets thrown by Bret Erickson.

## Range Demonstrations Entertain Reunion Attendees

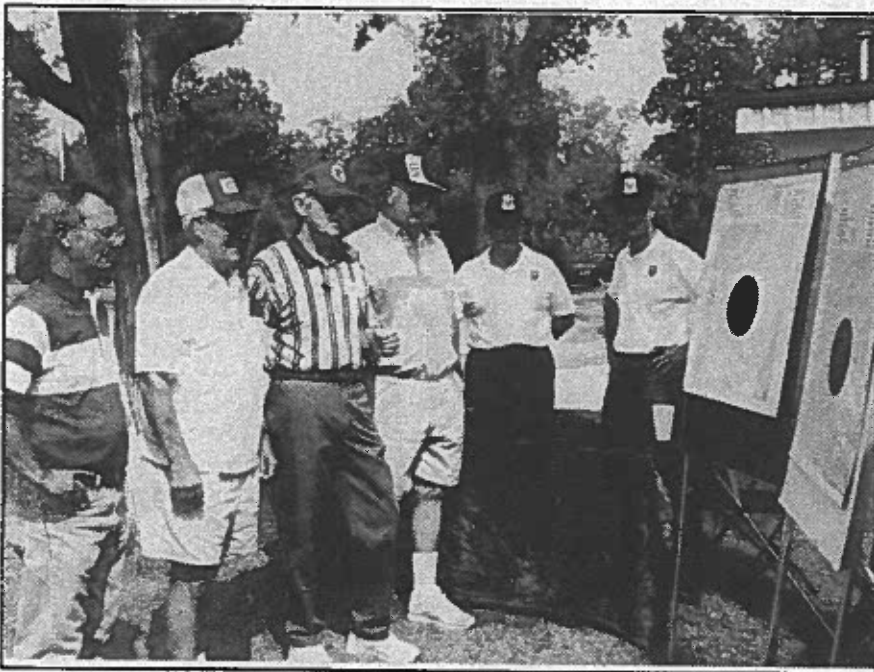
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A shooting demonstration at Hook Range by SGT Todd Graves and SSG Bret Erickson highlighted a day of open house activities for the USAMU 40th reunion. The two two-time Olympians amazed the crowd with trick shotgun and rifle shooting feats. SPC Joe Buffa assisted in the demonstration. Coach Burl Branham was on hand at the demonstration as well as earlier for trap and skeet shooting for reunion attendees.

During the course of the day USAMU's Action Shooting section also demonstrated a practical shooting course. CPT Gregory Way negotiated the course under the watchful eye of PV2 Julie Goloski. Before the demonstration CPT Jay Christy provided an interesting background discussion on practical shooting courses, competition, and weapons. SGT Ken Suratt assisted with the weapons display and aided guest shooters in putting rounds down range. Coach Ray Arredondo was present for the demonstration and for Service Pistol shooting for guests.

All USAMU sections provided displays and shooting opportunities for "old time" shooters and guests. Coach Troy Lawton worked with his Running Target crew. Coach Frank Briggs was with the Service Rifle shooters. Coach Ronnie Boles loaned his expertise to the International Pistol venue and Coach Bill Krilling was at the International Rifle range.

Bob Lancaster, Robert Whitacre, R. O. Thomas, and R. Wojciechowski observe the improved M9 shot groups with SSG Dennis Newby and SGT Simon Reynolds.



## Commander

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Novinski winning Ladies Trap and Double Trap. Action Shooting placed three individuals on the U.S. Action Shooting World Championships Team, and after shooting Running Target for only 18 months, SPC Ayala became the National Champion in 10 meter mixed runs. SGT Daryl Szarenski culminated this summer's highlights by winning the National Free Pistol Title for the second year in a row.

Our other major event was the 40th USAMU Reunion, 16-18 August. Over 450 members, former members and family, descended on the USAMU for this three day event. A special thanks goes out to MAJ Wanda Jewell and CPT Mark Joyner of the USAMU and Mr. Bill Blankenship and his AMUA staff for making this the biggest and most successful reunion ever. Along with two picnics the USAMU inducted four members into its Hall of Fame: Loyd Crow, Jeremiah McKenzie, Tommy Pool, and Lones Wigger; and dedicated the USAMU headquarters building in honor of Col Thomas J. Sharpe II. It was a great reunion, has been a great year on the shooting range, and we look forward to more successes in the future.



AMUA patches are available in limited quantities. The 3 inch diameter, high quality, multi-color patches are suitable for hats, shirts, and jackets. If you were unable to attend the reunion or would otherwise like one, send \$3.00 to AMUA today.

## America's

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- SGT Grant L. Singley:  
National Service Rifle Champion  
Interservice Rifle Champion  
President's Hundred Rifle Match Champion
- SGT Daryl L. Szarenski: USA Shooting National  
Free Pistol Champion
- SGT Thomas A. Tamas: National Smallbore Rifle  
Champion
- SGT Lewis A. Tippie: National Service Rifle Long  
Range Champion
- CPT Webster M. Wright: NRA 3-Position Rifle  
Champion

## USAMU Hall of Fame

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The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Hall of Fame is located in Sharpe Hall (Building 243) at Fort Benning, Georgia. Located inside the main entrance to the USAMU headquarters, the hall enshines eleven of the best shooting competition people in the world. Seven members were inducted into the hall in April of 1994. Four more members were added to the rolls of the elite of the elite in an August 1996 ceremony.

Initial inductees include 1LT Gary Anderson, SGM William B. Blankenship, Jr., SGM Huelet L. Benner, CW4 Coats Brown, SFC Barbara J. Hile, MSG James L. McQuien, and MAJ Margaret T. Murdock. The four new members are MSG Loyd G. Crow, Jr., COL Jeremiah M. McKenzie, LTC Tommy G. Pool, and LTC Lones W. Wigger, Jr.

Each shooting section has a hall of fame display at their respective ranges. Also, a support section hall of fame is displayed in the unit headquarters. There are currently 20 members in the International Rifle Hall of Fame, 9 members in the Support Hall of Fame, 8 members in the Service Rifle Hall of Fame, 7 members in the Running Target Hall of Fame, 7 members in the Shotgun Hall of Fame, 6 members in the Service Pistol Hall of Fame, and 9 members in the International Pistol Hall of Fame.

## President

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now, what a grand lot of people we have been privileged to have been associated with. With so many people showing that excellence is possible by everyone, like Chuck who painted the oil portrait of Col. Tom Sharpe, truly it was and is now the Home of Champions.

It was a pleasure to see again and welcome Naomi Sharpe and her family. I am sure they must be very proud of the honor paid to Col. Tom by naming the headquarters in his name. My thanks to the commander of the AMU, Col Fenty and his men and women who organized the Hall of Fame dinner and dedication of the headquarters building in honor of Col. Tom Sharpe, as well as the daily activities and excellent demonstrations throughout the weekend.

My thanks also must be given to those AMUA members who worked preparing the fish fry and the barbecue on Friday and Sunday. Some who worked from 0900 in the morning until 1030 in the evening preparing and serving at the fish fry, deserve a special thanks. There were many people who could not attend because of illness or other problems and I would like you to know that many of you were in our thoughts and that we wish you well.

**Army Marksmanship Unit Association**  
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Stamp

