



AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION
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!!Mark Your Calendars!!

**THE AMUA ANNUAL
MEETING WILL BE HELD
ON 23 JANUARY 1999 AT
2:00 p.m. AT THE POOL
INDOOR RANGE.**

**ANYONE INTER-
ESTED IN BECOMING AN
OFFICER IN AMUA,
PLEASE CONTACT US AT
THE AMUA ADDRESS.**

USAMU holds 42nd Reunion

3 retirees inducted into Hall of Fame; USAMU range dedicated to LTG Parks

More than 300 members, past and present, of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, gathered together last weekend to celebrate the USAMU's 42nd Reunion.

The reunion, which was held Oct. 16 to 18, honored the shooters and staff who made the USAMU great, and provided an opportunity for the shooters of the past to meet the shooters of the present. The highlights of the reunion included inducting three former shooters and gunsmiths into the USAMU Hall of Fame and honoring Lt. Gen. Floyd L. Parks by dedicating a new test facility and range in his memory.

Hall of Fame Induction

Inducted into the USAMU Hall of Fame Oct. 17 were retired Master Sgt. William E. Krilling of Midland, Ga., retired Master Sgt. Charles D. Davis of Columbus, Ga., and retired Sgt. 1st Class Jack W. Maple of Smiths, Ala. These three men joined the 11 other former members of the USAMU who are in the Hall of Fame.

Krilling, who has been the USAMU International Rifle Team coach since 1973, was also recently named as the U.S. Olympic Committee Shooting Coach of the Year and was one of the five finalists in the USOC National Coach of the Year Competition. The 71-year-old highly decorated war veteran won seven medals in international competition, including being a Pan American Games Silver Medalist and World Championship Bronze Medalist. He was also a member of two world-record-setting teams, won six Nationals and three Interservice Championships and won the World's Best Shooter Title at the 1958 World Military Olympics.

A former Navy surgical operating room technician, Davis served in the USAMU for 21 years and competed in Service Rifle, International Rifle and Running Target. He was a National Service Rifle Champion, a three-time National Running Target 50-Meter 30+30 Champion and a two-time National Running Target 50-Meter Mixed Run Champion. He earned the Expert Infantry Badge, the Combat Infantry Badge, the Distinguished Rifleman Badge and

the International Distinguished Badge. He set numerous national and interservice records and won nine medals in international competition. Maple's accomplishments with accurizing pistols for the USAMU Custom Firearms Shop earned him a spot as the principal pistol gunsmith for the U.S. teams competing in the Pan American and Olympic Games and the World Championships. An expert service pistol shooter, Maple earned the Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge before becoming a gunsmith. His 28-year shooting and gunsmithing career, which began in 1958, included developing, building, rebuilding, maintaining, accurizing and customizing the high quality of weapons required by the world-class shooters of the USAMU.

The guest speaker at the Hall of Fame Ceremony was Maj. Gordon R. Roberts, the youngest living Medal of Honor recipient, and one of only two Medal of Honor recipients on active duty. He is the commander of the 249th Field Hospital at Fort Gordon, Ga., and is a part-time international shooter.

Addressing the huge crowd gathered at the ceremony, Roberts said, "The Army Marksmanship Unit was formed to take on the monumental task of building competitive marksmanship for this country to a standard that I don't think anyone would have believed possible."

Roberts told the soldiers of the Marksmanship Unit that the three Hall of Fame inductees set the example that they should follow. He then addressed the inductees directly.

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COMMANDER's REPORT

COL ARCHIBALD V. ARNOLD, III

Thanks to the AMUA for sponsoring an absolutely GREAT 42d Reunion Weekend here 16-18 October. It was a fitting grand finale to the best competitive shooting season we've had in recent years.

We really appreciated the 300+ alumni who returned to Fort Benning for the festivities. Our new Hall of Famers: Krilling, Maple, and Davis represented in a most appropriate way the glory of our unit's past. A past made greater by the sometimes less sung but equally vital contributions of each and everyone of our alumni. There can be no doubt that the amazing feats of our shooters during the 1998 season were inspired by the tradition of excellence established by AMU marksmen of the past 40 years. Here is a sampler, that I hope you will find interesting, of just how well we shot in 1998:

***SERVICE RIFLE:** Extended individual champion streaks by winning Interservice (3 years in a row) and National Service Rifle (5 years in a row).

***SERVICE PISTOL:** Cover story in October SOLDIERS magazine. Winningest year in two decades.

***Coach Krilling:** U.S. Olympic Committee Shooting Coach of the Year.

***SPC Parker:** U.S. Olympic Committee Shooter of the Year.

***SFC Tamas:** Wins the Zurich World Cup Final in 50 meter prone by shooting 10.8 and 10.9 on his last two shots.

***SFC Szarenski:** His Gold Medal at the Buenos Aires World Cup was a first ever by an AMU international pistol shooter.

***SFC Graves:** At the Shotgun World Championship, he broke his last 76 targets in a row to win the skeet bronze medal.

***ACTION SHOOTING:** We nominated SPC Julie Goloski for Army Female Athlete of the Year for being the most prolific winner in her sport in AMU history (4 regional championships and two national silver medals).

***WORLD CUPS:** AMU's six medals were the most ever in a single season.

Again, we acknowledge that these stellar performances are a natural consequence of the traditions of excellence established by past generations of great AMU shooters. We want all alumni to be assured that today's marksmen are doing their part to advance the reputation of the AMU ever higher into the future. We look forward to our next reunion in the fall of 2000.

Just around the corner, the AMU will be the proud host of the 1999 National Championships. Its been 33 years since we last held this great event at Fort Benning. We expect 600 of the finest shooters in America to show up. And once again we will reach out to the AMUA to help run these matches in our usual first class fashion. Please mark your calendars to come help out or simply to spectate.

Best wishes to all for a safe and enjoyable Thanksgiving and holiday season.

Executive Board Happenings

AMUA

The reunion was an unqualified success. Over 300 attended the festivities over the weekend with a lot of back slapping and old stories being swapped. The reunion was a success in another way also, 34 former AMUers joined AMUA bringing our number of current members to 427. For those of you that came, thanks for helping us have a great time. For those of you who couldn't make it this time, we hope to see you next time.

Don't forget AMUA is having its annual meeting on 23 January 1999. It will be at the Pool Indoor Range Complex at 2:00pm. Since we're on the subject of the annual meeting, we would like to remind everyone that this is the time that new officers are elected and we're seeking nominations or volunteers to fill these positions. The current board has been serving for two years and it is time for a break. AMUA has done some great things in the past four years and it needs the leadership of its great membership to continue the reunions and fun. If you're interested or know of someone that is interested, call one of the current officers or write to us.

Here's another chance to have some fun with fellow shooters. USAMU is inviting AMUA members to the annual Christmas party to be held on 12 December 1998 at 12:00 at the Pool Indoor Range Complex. The party will be catered by Country's BBQ and features Santa Claus and a special guest appearance by Elvis. All interested AMUA members are asked to RSVP by 5 December 1998 by calling Wanda Jewell at (w)545-3534 or (h)569-8738 or writing to Commander, USAMU (ATTN: Wanda Jewell), P.O. Box 55810, Ft. Benning, GA 31905.

AMUA is sad to report the death of one of its members. Chuck Jenson, a former shotgun shooter with USAMU was killed in a plane crash outside of Myrtle Beach, SC on September 20, 1998 as he and his party were returning to York, PA where he resided. He was assigned to USAMU in the mid 1960's and was a member of the winning trap team at the 1966 World Championships held in Wiesbaden, Germany.

ANNUAL MEETING



23 January 1999
2:00 pm, Pool Indoor Range

REUNION HIGHLIGHTS



Two grateful shooters congratulate Mr. Krilling on his induction to the Hall Of Fame.



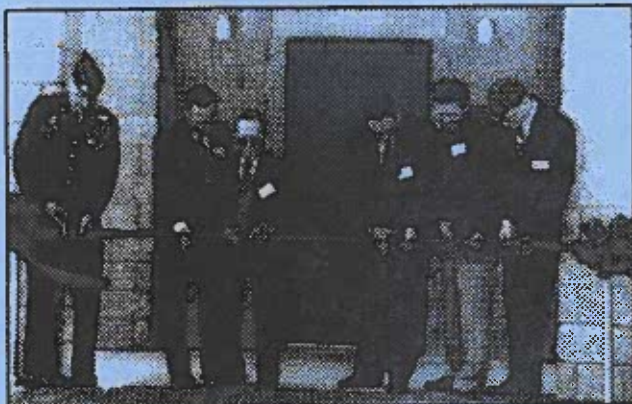
Charlie Davis receiving his Hall Of Fame Medal.



Hall of Fame inductee, Jack Maples, receives heartfelt congratulations from "Red" Mosely.



David and Judy Boyd look at a certificate presented on the occasion of his retirement.



Ribbon cutting ceremony of the new Parks Reloading and Test Facility.

(l-r) MG Ernst, William Parks, Folke Ahlquist
Floyd Parks, William Parks, Jr., Zachary Parks



COL Arnold presents Folke Ahlquist with a plaque commemorating his work in ammunition testing during the Parks Range dedication.

Army Marksmanship Unit wins National Service Rifle Championship

USAMU PAO

A service rifle shooter with the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit of Fort Benning, Ga., went head-to-head with more than 1,000 of America's best military and civilian competitive high-powered rifle shooters at the 1998 National Highpower Rifle Matches Aug. 4 to 17 at Camp Perry, Ohio, and came out on top.

Staff Sgt. Grant L. Singley broke the national service rifle record and won the prestigious National Service Rifle Championship for the second time in three years; he was also the 1996 National Champion and finished third last year.

According to Singley, the National Matches are the most important competition for service rifle shooters and are conducted once a year to determine who is the best in America.

Singley said he thanks his father, his coaches and his Army teammates for his success.

"We're very proud of him," said Service Rifle Coach Sgt. 1st Class Charles W. Herlth Jr. "He's a very disciplined shooter who works very hard."

A Henry, Ill., native, Singley graduated from Henry Senachwine High School in 1989 before enlisting in the Army later that year. After completing basic and infantry training at Fort Benning, Singley was assigned to the Army Marksmanship Unit in December 1989. He is also a 1991 graduate of Airborne School and the Instructor Training Course at Fort Benning and completed the Primary Leadership Development Course in 1996 and the Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course, in 1998 at Fort Benning. He has been awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, two Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbons, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Distinguished Rifleman Badge and the President's Hundred Tab.

Besides winning the National Individual Service Rifle Championship this year, he was also a member of three national winning teams — the National Trophy Rifle Team, the Enlisted Men's Trophy Team and the Roumanian Trophy Team. He also made the President's Hundred and placed second in the Individual Interservice Championship at Quantico, Va., this year.

In 1997, Singley was a member of the winning Interservice 10-Man Team, the winning Interservice Marine Corps Combat Development Command Team and the winning Interservice Infantry Trophy Team, as well as being a member of the record-setting winning National Trophy Team and winning Enlisted Men's Trophy Team.

Singley made history in 1996 by being the only shooter to ever win the President's Hundred Match, which he also won in 1992, the Interservice Rifle Championship and the National Service Rifle Championship all in the same year, and for that he was named as the Army Marksmanship Unit Association Shooter of the Year.

That year he also won the Reynolds Trophy at the Interservice Championship and the McCann and Forces Command trophies at the National Matches. He was also a member of the 1996 record-setting winning National Infantry Trophy Team, a member of the winning Interservice 10-Man Team, a member of the winning Interservice Marine Corps Combat Development Command Team and a member of the winning Interservice 1,000-Yard Service Rifle Team.

Service Rifle Team wins at Camp Perry

USAMU PAO

The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's Service Rifle Team dominated the service rifle portion of the National Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, Aug. 4 through 19.

Staff Sgt. Grant L. Singley won the Service Rifle National Championship for the second time in three years breaking the old record by 3 points and 13 Xs with a score of 2,372 points and 111 Xs. An X is a center shot used in tie-breaking.

"There have been several people who have won the championship more than once," Singley said. "I just wanted to go out there and do my best."

This time, his best was good enough as Singley went home with several individual match trophies and even more team trophies.

The Service Rifle Team took home the National Team Trophy, Enlisted Men's Team Trophy and the Roumanian Team Trophy for the 1,000-Yard Rifle Match.

"This was my first year coaching the team," said Sgt. 1st Class Rand D. Bentson. "Last year I was shooting on these winning teams."

The team also tied the score for the winning team in the Rochester National Defense Club Trophy Team Match.

Other results include Sgt. Christopher S. Hatcher winning the Members Trophy again with a score of 199 points and 10 Xs. Singley placing second in the Vandenberg Cup Match with a score of 795 points and 38 Xs and Sgt. Norman L. Anderson winning the Navy Cup Match with a score of 197 points and 6 Xs.

"We didn't win as many team matches this year as we did last year," Singley said. "But, we did win more individual matches."

With any shooting match, the weather plays a big factor on how well the scores will be, Bentson added.

"The first week, the weather was really bad and it rained almost everyday," Singley said. "But the second week was great."

But if it wasn't for the gunsmiths, the shooters could

PHOTOS NEEDED: If you have a 8" X 10" shooting photo of yourself or a team, please photo copy it, identify the event, people, date and send it to: AMUA Historian, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025. Photos received will be captioned, placed in document protectors and the appropriate binder and stored in the USAMU Photo Archives.

MEMBERSHIP: Pass the word about AMUA. One of our newest members, Murvale O. Belson, U.S. Army 1936-56, stopped by Camp Perry, chatted with an Army shooter, learned of our existence, joined up and made the reunion 16-18 October. Send us names and addresses of old shooters who may not be aware of AMUA. We will inform them of our association, the reunion dates, and the great fun we have together.

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"I want to tell you three gentlemen how much you mean to me," Roberts said. "Your standard is a high one. It's a standard that I except and want to live by. I look forward to the day when I can stand on the high ground with you and all the accomplishments that you've done."

Parks Range Dedication

Parks was the executive director of the National Rifle Association who recommended to President Dwight Eisenhower that the United States improve its level of marksmanship, which prompted the establishment of the Advanced Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning.

Four descendants of the lieutenant general flew in all the way from their home in Chevy Chase, Md., to attend the Parks Range Ceremony at which Fort Benning Commanding General Maj. Gen. Carl F. Ernst was the guest speaker.

"The Army Marksmanship Unit demonstrates that individual soldier skills is what the Army is really all about," Ernst said. "Lieutenant General Parks had a lifelong dedication to marksmanship and caused the unit to be activated at Fort Benning. The Marksmanship Unit continues to lead the Army in competitive shooting; we continually beat everybody else. As the commander of Fort Benning, that makes me very, very proud."

"Since its inception by General Parks, the Army Marksmanship Unit has helped the Army shoot better in all categories of small arms," Ernst continued. "If General Parks were here today, he'd say that he's very proud of what the Army Marksmanship Unit continues to mean for our Army, and what it does for our Army and our nation. As long as we have a U.S. Army, we'll need the Army Marksmanship Unit to press the skills needed by soldiers to survive, fight and win."

After Ernst's speech, Parks' sons, retired Lt. Col. William Parks and Judge Floyd Parks, and their sons, William Parks Jr. and Zachary Parks, unveiled the Parks portrait, painted by Charles R. Pagán, USAMU graphic artist.

"We appreciate all that has been done in remembrance of my father," said the retired lieutenant colonel. "This is a beautiful building. It's really going to be something that I know my father would really cherish and feel that the Army is continuing his vision of accurate marksmanship by responsible soldiers."

The Parks Family joined Ernst and retired Master Sgt. Folke A. Ahlquist, who served as a civilian weapons tester at Parks Range for 15 years, in cutting the ribbon, officially opening the new Parks Range building. They were joined by Roberts in the range's first-shot ceremony after the ribbon-cutting.

The 42nd Reunion weekend also included range activities, shooting demonstrations, an open house and a barbecue Oct. 17.

DONATIONS: Several AMUA members brought photos to the reunion 16-18 October and donated them to the USAMU photo archives. Thank you Tony Anthony, Ray Behnay, Ray Campbell, William Carrion, John Davis, Vernon Read, and Oliver Williams for your donations.

Thank you's to Forrest R. Smith who donated 15 great 8 X 10 photos taken during his tenure with the pistol team; Bruce Merideth for the donated box of memorabilia dating back to your experiences with the service rifle and international rifle teams; Bill Brushwood for the photos, news article and video tape showing the rifle team at work at Fort Niagara, Quantico and Camp Perry, and a nice clip of an earlier reunion.

USAMU coach named 1 of 5 finalists in US Olympic Committee National Coach of Year competition

USAMU PAO

The coach of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit's International Rifle Team, who last month was named as the U.S. Olympic Committee Shooting Coach of the Year, was one of the finalists in the USOC National Coach of the Year Competition.

Retired Master Sgt. William E. Krilling, a highly decorated war veteran and member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit Hall of Fame, won the top Olympic shooting coach title from a field of hundreds of national shooting coaches across the United States. At the USOC Coach of the Year Recognition Awards Banquet Sept. 19 in Houston, Texas, the 71-year-old shooting coach was named as one of the five finalists out of a field of 42 Olympic coaches from around the country. Ben Smith, the coach of the Gold-Medal winning Women's Olympic Ice Hockey Team, won the top honor of USOC Coach of the Year.

Krilling won his title for the outstanding accomplishments of his team this year, which included placing six out of a possible seven shooters on the World Championship Team, winning five individual and team world championships, winning nine individual and team national championships, setting two world records, tying one world record, setting a new national team record that was 2 points over the world record, and earning two Olympic quota slots for the United States for the year 2000.

USAMU shooter wins Gold Medal in

World Cup Final

USAMU PAO

A U.S. Army Marksmanship unit soldier won big in an elite international shooting competition last week. USAMU international rifle shooter Sgt. 1st Class Thomas A. Tamas won the Gold Medal in the Prone Match at the World Cup Final in Zurich, Switzerland, Oct. 16.

Tamas, a bona fide world champion, got to the World Cup Final by winning the Gold Medal in the 50-Meter Free Rifle Prone Championship (English Match) and tied the world record at the World Shooting Championships in Barcelona, Spain, in July. Besides earning the title of World Champion, the 33-year-old also earned an Olympic quota slot for the United States in the 2000 Olympics. Tamas was also a member of the three-man U.S. Shooting Team that won the Gold Medal in the Prone 50-Meter World Team Championship. There were 100 countries and 1,800 shooters competing in the World Championships.

USAMU soldiers named Shooter of Year

USAMU PAO

USAMU international rifle shooter Spc. Jason A. Parker was selected as the 1998 USA Shooting Shooter of the Year; USA Shooting of 1 Olympic Plaza, Colorado Springs, Colo., is the national governing body for Olympic shooting sports in the United States. After being selected as the USA Shooting Male Rifle Shooter of the Year, Parker was selected as the overall Shooter of the Year out of all the winners in the four Olympic shooting disciplines. USAMU international pistol shooter Sgt. 1st Class Darryl L. Szarenski won the USA Shooting Male Pistol Shooter of the Year.

Keeping in Touch

Loyd Crow retired and living in Columbus, GA. Shot service rifle 1948-70 in Japan, Ft. Campbell, Third Army and All Army, winning the National High Power Championship in 1955 & 56. First assigned to USAMU in 1958. Shot International Rifle 1958-60. Shot Running Target 1961-71. Shooting coach for U.S. Biathlon Team 1971-74. USAMU Running Target Coach 1975-76. Retired Army 1976. Attended Columbus Tech and had heating & AC service business until retiring in 1995. Coached or helped manage several U.S. teams. Became a UIT "A" Judge officiating the Olympics of 1980, 84, 96 and several World Championships. Still active officiating. Member UIT Judges Committee 1989 to present.

James L. Tuck retired and living in Punta Gorda, FL. Shot service rifle 11th Abn Div and USAEUR 1957-58, USAMU 1958-61, 1965-68, 1969-71. Okinawa and USARPAC 1961-65. 9TH ID sniper/instructor 1968-69. Retired from Army 1971. Attended Columbus Tech. Was a bartender at the Elks Club in Columbus and a welder in Florida. Married to a great gal "Vy". Hobbies include fishing, hunting and dreaming of all the good old times shared with fellow soldiers and shooters.

Vernon R. Read retired and living in Antlers, OK. Shot service rifle 1958-68. USAMU 1962-65. Was a gunsmith in Korea 1966. Retired from Army 1968. Worked Federal Reserve Bank - Dallas, drove school bus for 5 years, ran up to 55 head of cattle, cut and baled hay for own use and other people. Remains very active in the VFW. Hobbies include hunting, fishing, family & grandchildren and attending military reunions.

Bennie J. Selby runs a few cows and farms 70 acres, while working on his B.A. in Tahlequah, OK. Shot service rifle 1954-65. Coached All Army Western and USAEUR 1959-65. Coached smallbore at Oklahoma University 1967-68. Retired from Army 1973. Taught Junior ROTC in San Antonio until retiring in 1991. Hobbies include extensive RV travel and military reunions.

Francis M. McNerney shot service rifle - Fort Gordon 1955, Fort Hood 1958-59, USARPAC 1960, Fourth Army 1960-62, USAMU 1962-66 and

international rifle in 1965. Retired from the Army in 1966. Worked as a mechanic at Columbus Motors 1966-74, and Bill Heard Leasing 1974-75. Shop foreman at Quality GMC 1975-84 and Columbus Truck Sales & Service 1984-90. Retired in 1990, still living in Columbus. Hobbies include fishing and senior citizen trips with wife Christine.

Ralph O. Thompson assigned to USAMU 1960-68. Shot on the Army Blue Team 1961-68. Holds three records. A Service Pistol Team national record from 1964 still stands unbroken. Retired from Army in 1968. Worked as Human Resource Manager through 1998. Now working as a staff member for HOSPICE and consulting as a human resource manager. Recently finished his third full size experimental aircraft. Holds a commercial pilots license. Wife Dorothy, five sons and four grandchildren all healthy. Hobbies include flying and visiting old friends.

Murvale O. Belson, Sr. retired in 1987 and living in Covington, TN. Member of the Army Rifle Team at Fort Benning and Camp Perry 1939 & 40. Attended glider training and OCS in 1942. Shot, coached or managed service rifle teams in the 1950s until retiring from the Army in 1956. Was a civilian flight instructor at Fort Rucker. Managed Fixed Base Operations at the Herbert Small Airport, Macon, GA 1964-78. Enjoys travel and taking it easy.

James W. Carter semi retired and living in Menan, Idaho. Shot service rifle 1955-61 in Japan, 5th Army, Korea, USAEUR and All Army. Was a USAEUR and USAMU gunsmith from 1961 until he retired in September 1974. Was a gunsmith in Phoenix, AZ 1975-81 and the trucking business 1976-81. Jim has farmed in Idaho 1989 to the present. He also has an irrigation business that he started in 1992.

Shelva R. Smith retired and living in Seale, Alabama. Shot service rifle in 1954 at Fort Story, VA and 1960-64 at Okinawa, 5th Army and All Army. He was a gunsmith 1964-74 in Korea, USAEUR, and USAMU, retiring from the Army in 1974. Shelva had a seamless gutter business for a year. He returned to USAMU as a civilian service rifle gunsmith 1975-95, when he retired. He most enjoys travel and donating his time and effort while building churches in Europe, and South and Central America.

Army Marksmanship Unit Association
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Stamp