



AMUA TIMES

ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 52025; Fort Benning, Georgia 31995-2025

MARCH 1999

Issue Number XVIII

What's Inside

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

USAMU Commander's Report
..... Page 2

AMUA Committee Reports:
Membership
Treasurer
..... Page 3

Association Shooter of the Year
..... Page 3

Easley Range
..... Page 3

Donor Thanks
..... Page 4

Minutes
..... Page 4

Home of the Champions 1998
..... Page 5

Keeping in Touch
..... Page 6

Photos Needed
..... Page 6



Photo by USAMU PAO

Willis Powell presents pistol to SFC Thomas Tamas while coach Bill Krilling looks on.

Annual AMUA meeting attendees enjoy a full agenda and refreshments

The Sixth Annual AMUA Meeting Bids Farewell to Outgoing President Willis Powell and Elects New President Mac Johnson.

AMUA

It was overcast and drizzling rain, but a small crowd gathered at the Pool International Shooting Complex on 23 January for the Army Marksmanship Unit Association annual meeting.

Members and guests were greeted by President Willis Powell. The outgoing leader thanked the membership for their support during his tenure as President.

Association officers then gave reports. The treasury and membership look good. Details are covered in other articles.

Colonel Arch Arnold then gave a report on the status of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit. He showed an excellent tape highlighting the 1998 shooting season. He said he is looking forward to the reassignment of the unit to the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. Finally, he thanked the membership for providing the tradition to build on.

ward to the reassignment of the unit to the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. Finally, he thanked the membership for providing the tradition to build on.

Sergeant First Class Thomas A. Tamas, 1998 AMUA Shooter of the Year, was presented a Smith and Wesson .22 competition model pistol by the President. SFC Tamas also thanked the membership for their support and said it was a great honor to be selected as shooter of the year.

After a refreshment break new officers were elected. Lory M. (Mac) Johnson, Jr. was elected AMUA President for 1999 and Al Mullins was elected Vice President. Jack Horner was re-elected as Treasurer and Ray Burton will serve as Secretary.

Formalities ended and the war stories began. Get your Year 2000 calendars now so you can plan on joining us at the next annual meeting.

Look in future *AMUA Times* for date and time of the next AMUA Annual Meeting scheduled in the year 2000.

COMMANDER's REPORT: On the Move in 1999

Col Arch Arnold

1998 was a great year for your winning team at the AMU. Now we are rested and ready to charge off into the '99 season with fire in our bellies and gold in our sights. We are busy and changing fast to stay ahead of the pack. Here are a number of important and positive changes at the AMU lately.

AMUA Annual Meeting - 23 Jan 99

We enjoyed being with a great bunch of champions and their ladies at Pool Indoor last month. Some highlights of the meeting:

- Congratulations to Mac Johnson on his election as the new AMUA president. As most of you are aware, Mac did great things for the AMU during his tour as our commander in the early '90s. It was on his watch that the annual budget doubled and the unit reestablished its national and international dominance. No doubt his energy and dedication to the AMU will enhance the activities of our alumni association.

- Also, congratulations and a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing president, Will Powell, for his fine leadership and selfless service to the AMUA over the past two years. During his tenure, the AMUA contributed in many outstanding ways to the success, and even the actual existence, of this unit. We owe him a great debt of gratitude...thanks, Will.

- We were delighted with the AMUA's choice for SHOOTER OF THE YEAR.....SFC Tom Tamas, world record holder and world champion in the 50M English Match.

- Also, at the meeting, we took great pride in showing our 1998 Year-In-Review video tape. (If you want a copy please contact us.) It was truly a remarkable year of winning across the board.

Service Rifle on the Move!

We are pleased to announce the hire of Coach Rick Remily to take charge of our service rifle team. Rick is a winner who will carry us into the 21st century as the dominant service rifle team in the world. Other service rifle notes:

- SGTs Singley, Praslick, DeWitt and Ward recently returned from a two week tour in Bosnia training Army snipers to be all they can be. These super soldiers represented the AMU in just the right professional way in this dangerous, miserable, and far away place.

- Check out the new Service Rifle Command Post opening soon at Easley Range! Please stop by and visit next time you are down Dixie Road. You can't miss it.

WWW.USAMU.ORG

SSG Finch, our new computer geek (replacing Red Mosely who has announced his retirement effective 27 March.....he will be

PRESIDENT's REPORT: Into the Future

Mac Johnson

This is my first opportunity to write a few words for the Association newsletter. Let me start by recognizing the great job that Immediate Past President Willis Powell, his slate of officers and committees did for the Association and for the Army Marksmanship Unit. Thanks for a job well done!

I am indeed honored to have been selected to serve as your President. Following Willis Powell and Bill Blankenship before him is a daunting task, but I assure you I will serve to the best of my ability. I encourage each of you to guide me through my term of office by letting me know what you want your Association to be and to do. Do not hesitate to call, write, email, or visit with me if you want to give me guidance or share your thoughts on our Association. Here is how you can do any or all of those things:

Telephone: (w) 706-545-6967
(h) 334-297-3049

Address: 125 Lee Road 612
Smiths, Alabama 36877

Email: lmj@mindspring.com

Visit: Wherever you desire (outside of the Columbus-Phenix City area, you pay the air fare)

Our Association has three basic pieces to its charter: (1) Provide a link to the history of the US Army Marksmanship Unit; (2) Host ceremonies and social events; and (3) Support the goals and objectives of the US Army Marksmanship Unit.

Over the last five years, the combined efforts of the USAMU and the Association have resulted in enormous strides in the history link. There is more to do, but we are far better off today than when we started. If you have not visited the Unit library and conference room to see some of these efforts, you owe it to yourself to do that. We are always appreciative of old photographs, momentos, or other memorabilia that are donated to help capture our illustrious history—please keep them coming. Send them or bring them to me or any of the Association officers. Or get in touch with Ken Hamill who is doing a great job with the history effort.

Hall of Fame ceremonies, reunions, and annual meetings are indicative of the great success we have had with the second part of our charter. Start thinking about the 2000 Reunion—it will be a millennium moment of the first magnitude!

Recognition and award to the Army Marksmanship Unit Shooter of the Year is a superb way to support the goals and objectives of the Unit. In an organization with so many champions, it is always difficult to recognize just one. But the Associa-

Membership Report

AMUA

For the year end of 1998, AMUA has a total of 1061 individuals on our database. The association has 416 active members on our rolls; we also show 90 deceased individuals. AMUA had 77 individuals join us in 1998 and 317 renewed their membership. Multi-year memberships account for the differences in the totals.

Make it a goal to ask three new people to join the AMUA. If every member recruited just one new member, our membership would double - think about that.

We want to remind anyone who is moving, please put AMUA on your change of address notices. Also, if you have a change in phone number or area code let us know, so we can keep our records straight.

Treasurer's Report

AMUA

The financial position of the Association continues to be solid. Our income last year - from dues, patches, golf tournament, reunion, and other donations - was \$11,843. Our expenses - from administrative supplies, "TIMES" and directory publication, postage, Shooter of the Year award, golf tournament, and reunion - were \$9,934. On balance, our income over expenses for 1998 was \$1,459. The program of advance payment of dues for up to five years has met with fair success. We need more people to think about paying up their dues for two to five years - it cuts down on our administrative burden of mailing out dues reminders and receipts/cards on an annual basis. Please consider this the next time you receive a "dues" notice.

Easley Range Rededication Set

AMUA

The USAMU has worked the past two years to upgrade Easley Range. This range has been the home of the USAMU Service Rifle Team since the inception of the unit. It was originally dedicated on March 26, 1951 for Brigadier General Claudius M. Easley.

GEN Easley was one of the firmest believers in marksmanship the Army has ever known. He was team captain of the Army Rifle and Pistol Teams that competed in Camp Perry during the late '30s. (CW4 Coats Brown was one of his team mates and coach). GEN Easley was killed on Okinawa in June 1945 while serving as Assistant Commanding General of the 96th Infantry Division.

The unit has used this range for testing, training, and competing with every shoulder fired rifle in the Department of Defense inventory. Currently the Service Rifle Team uses the M16 as its weapon of choice, with accuracy that must be seen to be believed.

On June 4, 1999 we will rededicate Easley Range. We ask all alumni and friends to come honor this great American and see what has grown from the 1930s All Army Teams.



Photo by USAMU PAO

SFC Thomas A. Tamas takes aim at a recent competition.

Association names Shooter of the Year

Sergeant First Class Thomas A. Tamas added another prize to an eventful collection for heroics in 1998.

AMUA

Sergeant First Class Thomas A. Tamas, an international rifle shooter, was named Army Marksmanship Unit Association Shooter of the Year for 1998.

The Columbus native won the Gold Medal in the Prone Selection Match at the World Cup Final in Zurich, Switzerland in October 1998. SFC 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 tying the world record at the World Shooting Championships in Barcelona, Spain in July 1998.

"I am proud of this uniform and I am proud to be in this unit. I really appreciate what all of you have done."

SFC Thomas A. Tamas

Besides earning the title of World Champion, the 33-year-old also earned an Olympic quota slot for the U.S. in the 2000 Olympics. SFC 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 1800 shooters competing in the World Championships.

He has set his goals to excel again in 1999, to win an Olympic berth, and to bring home the Gold!

COMMANDER / From Page 2

missed!) has produced the second and much improved generation of the USAMU Home Page on the internet (WWW.USAMU.ORG). Please check it and let us know what you think.

Recruiting Command

Effective 1 June 1999, we expect to be assigned as a subordinate command of USAREC (U.S. Army Recruiting Command). If you've been reading the papers lately, you know that the services are not meeting annual recruiting goals.....by a long shot. So here comes USAMU to the rescue! It's a mission that we are ideally suited for. AMU shooters are winners who reliably project exactly the right sharp, fit and professional image for the U.S. Army. So, as we go about maintaining our dominant winning tradition in over 200 matches world-wide annually, we'll be spending time along the way with Army recruiters in local high schools and other civic events. It's a great opportunity to increase this units value to the total readiness of the U.S. Army. We look forward to the new challenge.

Finally

We continue to greatly appreciate the encouragement and support that the AMUA gives all our people and activities. We continue to work hard to live up to the standards and traditions of excellence that are the legacy of your service at the AMU over the past 43 years.

Shooting for Gold!

Thanks for the Donations

Thank you to Ron Menz of Sandusky, Ohio for the Army National Rifle Trophy Group weekly bulletins from Fort Niagara, NY in 1964 and Fort Benning in 1965, the July 1964 Regional Championship bulletin fired at Fort Niagara indicating his 499-36V placed second in the aggregate, the 1966-67 Eighth Army Rifle Match program, and several film strips of the old days at Fort Niagara.

Thank you to John L. Davis, Jr. of Maryland Heights, Missouri for the USAAMU Amendatory, General, Special, TDY & Travel orders ranging from 1957-60 and the 10 October 1960 USAAMU Roster. The orders applied to marksmanship displays, pistol matches, M-1 rifle familiarization, good conduct medals, rifle and pistol qualification scores.

Thank you to Robert D. Whitacre of Sparta, Wisconsin for several great pistol team photographs ranging from the mid and late 1960s to the early 1970s. The accompanying shooter/coach identification, location of the matches, and records attained are all priceless information. Some of your old friends send their wishes for your speedy recovery.

Thank you to LTC Claudius M. Easley, Jr. (USA Ret) of Washington, D.C. for donating to Mr. Aylward and AMUA the old photographs of Army and Infantry marksmanship teams from the late 1920's and 1930's. His father, BG Claudius Easley had safeguarded these photos in a footlocker during World War II. BG Easley was killed in combat on Okinawa. One 1939 photo showed SGT Coats Brown and CPL White after their shoot off. They had tied for the 300 yard rapid fire Coast Guard Trophy. Mr. Brown won the shoot off. Yes, Colonel Easley, the C.M.E. JR. 3/3/32 you created in wet cement on the old sidewalk of your Dad's quarters on Rainbow Avenue, Fort Benning is still in place, as you left it.

PRESIDENT / From Page 2

tion has done this well and there is little doubt that each year's winner is a truly great champion and phenomenal shooter. Congratulations to SFC Tom Tamas the latest recipient of this award!

These efforts by the Association are good for our membership and the Unit. But we cannot sit still! I know many of you out there have great ideas about other things that we can do. Please share them with us.

One significant event that your executive board members just appointed a committee to look into is how we go about incorporating and attaining tax- exempt status. This would allow us to accept donations that could be applied to many different programs that would support the goals and objectives of the Unit. If you have experience in gaining 501C tax-exempt status or know a tax lawyer willing to donate some expertise, we could use your help. Contact Carter Berry who is heading this exploratory committee.

On another subject, we are looking for articles for this newsletter. We will take whatever you old shooters and smiths will write, but would particularly like to have humorous stories involving former (or present) members of the unit. Don't worry about your writing skills—we will find someone to slick it up if need be. You just write down the funny stuff with names, places, and events. We will try to make you look like a best selling author!

Once again I must say thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve our Association and its membership. I look forward to meeting and hearing from many of you over the next year.

Minutes of the February 23, 1999 Executive Board Meeting

Members Present:

Mac Johnson, President
Al Mullins, Vice President
Jack Horner, Treasurer
Ray Burton, Secretary
Ken Hamill, Historian
Roman Wojciechowski, Membership
Bob Aylward, Unit Representative
Carter Berry, Public Affairs

1. Meeting called to order at 1630, February 23, 1999.

2. Discussed AMU Hall of Fame. Consensus of Board was that we should consider recommending to the AMU that they reexamine the requirement for all Unit Hall of Fame inductees to first be members of a section Hall of Fame. The Board felt that there may be some shooters or support personnel from the 1950s and early 60s who are deserving of Hall of Fame status, but who have been out of the shooting business so long that they are not well known by current members of the respective sections. No specific names were discussed. The Board decided to ask Bill Blankenship, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, to look into this and if there are names that should be considered we would approach the Unit with appropriate recommendations.

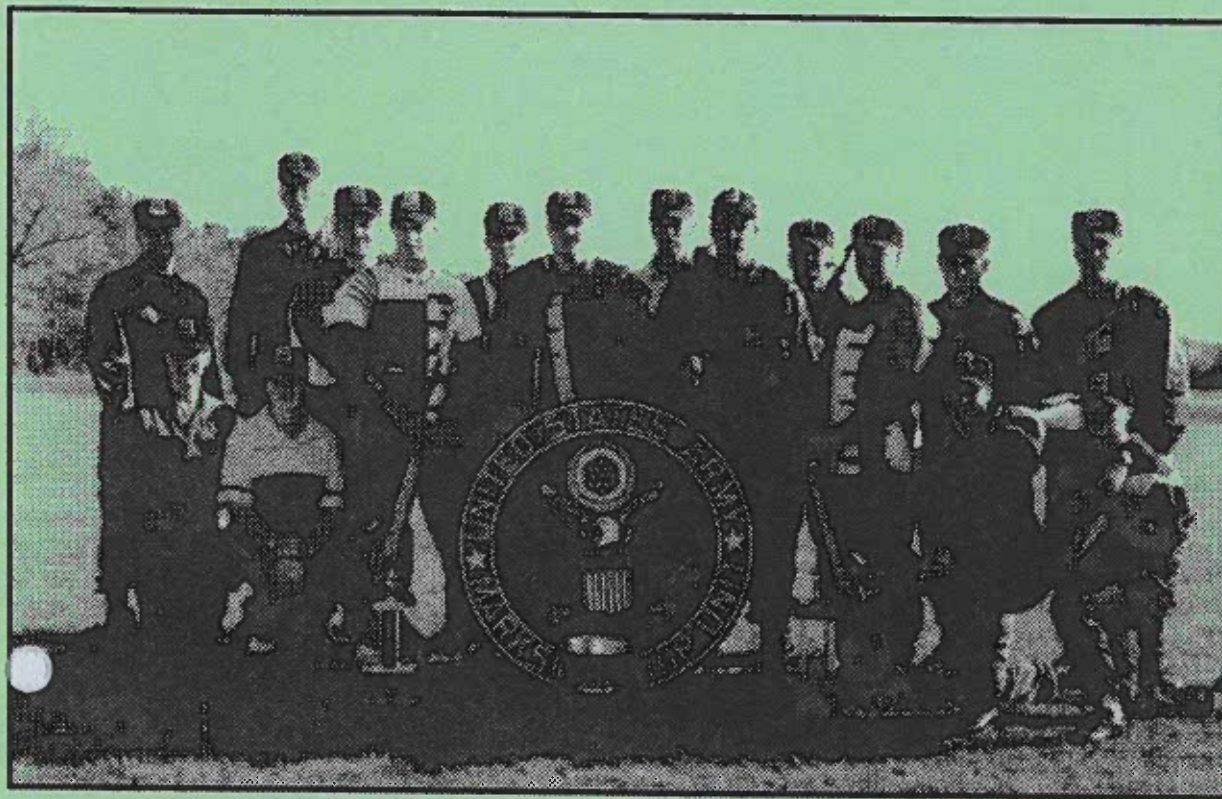
3. Easley Range dedication is scheduled for June 4, 1999.

4. Discussed financial status of AMUA. A motion was made by Carter Berry, seconded by Ken Hamill that a committee be appointed to look into the possibility of incorporation under 501c Tax Exempt Status. A committee consisting of Carter Berry, Mac Johnson, Al Mullins, Jack Horner, and Rick Hawkins was appointed. Also discussed was whether or not Association monies should be placed in interest bearing accounts rather than simple checking accounts. Jack Horner said he would bring a recommendation on this matter to the next Board meeting.

5. A committee was appointed to review the Constitution and Bylaws, consisting of Ken Hamill and Al Mullins. Will look at membership categories (Active, Corporate, and Honorary), will include recommendations made in January meeting into

See MINUTES, page 6

A Few of America's Finest from a Highly Successful Year



Home
of
the
Champions
1998

Photo by USAMU PAO

(Left to Right, Front kneeling) SSG Kimberly J. Kolb - Set eight Women's Short-Course National Records, Coached National Service and Interservice Pistol Team Champions; SPC Julie A. Goloski - First woman to win majority of USPA Area Championships in U.S., Best Female Shooter at Bianchi Cup, Silver Medals at World Speed Shooting Championships and Limited and Open Nationals; SSG Theresa E. DeWitt - Gold Medal in Pan Am Games Selection Match; SPC Renee D. Cunningham - Bronze Medal, Junior Women's Sport Pistol at World Championship U.S. Team Selection Matches; (Back) SSG Charles P. Gartland - Chosen USA Shooting Gunsmith for the 1999 Pan Am Games, Commended for work on M9 pistol helping win National Service Pistol Championship; SPC Justin A. Meyer - Assisted loading Ammunition that helped Service Rifle Team win at Interservice and National Championships; SFC Daryl L. Szarenski - Interservice Free Pistol Champion, Gold Medal and Olympic Quota for U.S. at Argentina World Cup, Olympic Quota in World Championships Free Pistol Match, USA Shooting Pistol Shooter of the Year; SFC Lance D. Dement - Gold Medal 10-Meter Mixed Match at World Championships Team Selection Match, Silver Medal at New Orleans Invitational; SPC Jason A. Parker - Three World Cup Medals (2 Gold and 1 Silver) and USOC Shooter of the Year; SFC Thomas A. Tamas - Gold Medal in 50-Meter Prone at Spain World Championships, Gold Medal in Prone at World Cup Finals at Switzerland, Silver Medals in Smallbore Prone and 3x40 Match at World Championship Team Selection; CPT Harold A. "Jay" Christy, Jr. - European Standard Champion, Georgia State Champion, First Place, Limited Shoot Off and Gold Standard Team at North American Championships, First Master at Areas 1, 4, 6, & 8 Championships and Smith & Wesson Invitational; SFC James "Todd" Graves - Bronze Medal in Skeet at World Championships, Gold Medal in Skeet at World Championships Selection Matches, Gold Medal in Trap at National Championships; SGT Emil Praslick, III - Interservice Rifle Champion, Navy Match winner at Interservice Championships, Member Infantry Trophy Team Match Champions, Member, Master Class Enlisted Men's Trophy Team Match Champions at National Championships; SPC Armando R. Ayala - 3 Bronze Medals at National Championships, Silver Medal at Finnish Nationals, With USAMU Running Target Team swept Interservice Championships; SSG Grant L. Singley - Set National Record and 1998 National Interservice Rifle Champion, With Service Rifle Team won National Team Championship; SGT Thomas A. Rose - FORSCOM Trophy Winner, Member of Interservice Pistol Team Champions, Member of Interservice Service Pistol Team Champions.

Keeping in Touch

Ken Hamill

◆Raymond E. Campbell resides in Wilmington, NC. Shot service rifle 1958-68 while assigned to USAMU and USAREUR. Won the Pershing Trophy and Leech Cup in 1963. Shot on the winning team at the National Matches in 1962 & 63. Retired from Army in 1968. Worked Junior ROTC at high schools in Thompson, GA and Wilmington, NC. Worked 17 years General Electric - Wilmington. Umpired baseball, softball, and volleyball for 30 years. Currently works at golf course. Enjoys hunting, golf and square dancing.

◆Joe Watson retired and living in Phenix City, AL. Started shooting pistol with 60th Inf, 9th Div, USAREUR in 1954. Became distinguished pistol shooter in 1955. Was First Army OIC and shooter in 1957. USAMU Pistol OIC 1960-65. Served as PVT, CPL, SSG, TSGT, MSG, 1SG, 0-1 to O-5, before retiring from the Army in 1971. Was an insurance underwriter. Enjoyed hunting. Active in Sojourners/Masons, Sons of the American Revolution, Disabled American Veterans, American Legion and the Retired Officers Association.

◆Earl Waterman resides in West Point, GA. Shot service rifle 1958-78 at Fort Bragg, Fort Benning, Third Army, All Army, 2nd Armored Div, Fort Hood, Fourth Army, Sixth Army, Korea, USARPAC, and USAREUR. Assigned to USAMU 1960-61 & 1974-79. 4th Inf Div sniper/instructor in 1969. Retired from Army 1979. Held electronics jobs 1979-84. Worked Prado Tiro Range, Chino, CA 1984-88 and Infantry School, Fort Benning 1988-93. USAMU target maintenance technician 1993 to the present.

◆Ron Menz retired and living in Sandusky, OH. Started shooting smallbore with the Old Guard in 1959, high power with MDW in 1960. Distinguished in 1964. Shot with Hawaii, USARPAC, USAREUR and USAMU to name a few until 1971. Became a recruiter & counselor until he retired from the Army in 1979. He was a government service recruiter until 1986 and the top GS Army recruiter of the year 1981. He got a degree in photography and worked for the USAF in Columbus, OH until 1992. He enjoys photography, cards and travel.

◆Aubrey E. Smith still working and living in Locust Grove, GA. Shot service pistol and international pistol. Assigned to USAMU 13 1/2 years, TDY USAMU 3 1/2 years. Member of

Photos needed: If you have a 8" X 10" shooting photo of yourself or a team, please photo copy it, identify the event, date, people 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.

Information for the "Keeping in Touch" column needed: If you shot for the Army, your old friends want to hear about you. Send us a description of your experiences, when and where you shot, coached, accurized weapons, or other duties. When did you get out of the Army? What did you do? School? Work? When did you retire? What are your hobbies? Please jot down some information about yourself and send it to: AMUA Times Editor, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025.

World Championships Teams 1958, 62, 70. Member of Pan Am Games 1959, 63, 67. Member of 1960 CISM Team. Alternate on Olympic Teams 1960 & 64. Pistol Team NCOIC 1971-73 and Head Coach 1971-74. Retired from Army in 1974. Employed by Law Enforcement Equipment Co. January 1975-1991 road sales, and sales manager 1991 to present. Enjoys visiting old friends, cooking and visiting Las Vegas and the casinos on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

◆Phillip F. Cannella, Jr. lives in Midland, Ga. Shot service and international rifle 1958-63 and 1974-82. Assigned to USAMU 1961-63 and 1974-82. Service rifle OIC 1974-82. Shot on championship teams at All Army, Interservice, National and International level. Shot CISM 1959, 61, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81. Retired from Army in January 1986. Owned a motivational company in Virginia. Director of Junior ROTC in Korea 1987-88. Southeast regional sales manager for Glock 1989-96. Owns a antique & collectable business in Columbus. Enjoys collecting, raising teenage daughter, fishing, gardening, and camaraderie with old shooter friends.

◆Robert D. Whitacre retired and living in Sparta, Wisconsin. Shot pistol 1960-72 at Fort Hood, Schofield Barracks, Fort Lewis, USARPAC, Sixth Army, All Army. Assigned to USAMU 1965-70 & 71-72. Shot 7 individual records and on 14 national record setting teams. Was national .22 Champ in 1964 and .45 Champ in 1966. Vietnam sniper/instructor with 101st 1970. Retired from Army September 1972. Worked as truck foreman and dispatcher for a large road construction company. Still enjoys some hunting and fishing and lots of golf.

◆Wayne J. Voter retired and living in Columbus, GA. Shot service rifle 1957-74. Started with 24th ID, then USAREUR, 82nd Abn Div, Third Army, and All Army. Assigned USAMU 1962-67 and 1970-74. Shot running boar 1968-69. Vietnam 1967-68 & 69-70. Retired from Army 1974. Drove truck while attending college. Worked as counselor and taught while working on advanced degrees. Earned BA and two masters degrees from Troy State and his doctorate from U of Georgia 1985. Taught management courses for Troy State until retiring in 1997. Enjoys fishing, occasional teaching and travel.

MINUTES / From Page 4

comprehensive study. As part of Bylaws revision, consider having annual meetings in conjunction with Reunions or in late Spring/early Summer when Reunions are not held. Attendance at Annual meetings has been low and the Board felt that part of the reason is that our Bylaws require they be held in January. Coming shortly after Christmas and during the middle of Winter when it is ordinarily cold and wet and gets dark so early may be one of the reasons for low turnout.

6. Discussed AMUA newsletter, would like to see Minutes of Executive Board and General Membership meetings included and a "Guest" column about their favorite AMU happening. Carter Berry will provide us a recommended standard format at the next meeting to include timelines for input and publication dates.

7. Discussed inviting other services to next reunion. Mac Johnson and Ken Hamill will look into the feasibility.

8. A letter from LTC (Ret) Emerson regarding needing assistance on his book was discussed. His book is about U.S. Army marksmanship awards and the history of Army marksmanship. Ken Hamill, current Association Historian, will contact LTC Emerson and offer assistance.

9. Meeting adjourned at 1814 hours.