



MMA TIMES

MILITARY MARKSMANSHIP ASSOCIATION
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Annual Meeting 2001

MMA

The outside weather was cool with a brisk breeze, but inside the Pool Indoor Shooting Complex there was a warm atmosphere. The 2001 Military Marksmanship Association annual meeting was attended by about 75 members and guests.

The meeting got under way with a welcome from Association president, Mac Johnson. He reviewed the Association objectives and then introduced the USAMU commander.

Colonel Arch Arnold highlighted the successful year 2000. Among those in the spotlight were SFC Grant Singley of Service Rifle and SFC Todd Graves of Shotgun. COL Arnold concluded his remarks with a thanks to the MMA for the support given the unit.

The only "old business" on the agenda was the pending tax exempt status action. This is ongoing and Mac said he would hopefully complete the action by this Summer. This should open the gates for donations to assist in upcoming MMA projects.

Next came the elected officer and committee chair reports. These are highlighted elsewhere in this issue. The Association is coming out of a prosperous and entertaining year. Finances are adequate, membership is thriving, and we have helped the unit and enjoyed a number of social events.

Following the reports and concluding remarks from the President the MMA Soldier of

the Year candidates and winner were introduced. Our Soldier of the Year is SFC Todd Graves. Smith and Wesson Firearms Corporation again donated a .22 Caliber Match Pistol as the trophy.

Next on the agenda was installation of our 2001-2002 officers who were elected at the Reunion and general membership meeting last October. Phil Cannella accepted the challenges as the new Association president.

Following awarding of an abundance of door prizes the membership then enjoyed excellent refreshments. More than a few "war stories" were exchanged during the ensuing period.

Our next annual meeting will be in January 2002. Start planning now and be there.

MMA OBJECTIVES

Support the goals and objectives of the USAMU

Provide a link to the history of the USAMU

Host ceremonies and social events

**A Special Thanks to
Smith and Wesson Firearms Corporation
For donation of the Soldier of the Year Pistol**

MMA Soldier of the Year:

SFC Todd Graves was announced as the MMA Soldier of the Year at the Annual Meeting in January. He is shown here with his 2000 Olympic Medal.

USAMU Photo

USAMU Commander's Report

Col Arch Arnold

2001 is shaping up to be another very exciting year at USAMU, one of great challenge and change. Let me give you a quick rundown of what's going on:

NEW COACHES REPORT FOR DUTY

We are delighted to announce the selection of our new shotgun and international rifle coaches.

*Coach Rick Hawkins reported in on 19 February to take charge of our great International Rifle Team. Rick comes with an excellent reputation: a champion rifle shooter known for his intense work ethic and a proven leader during a very successful career as an Armor officer (which we have not held against him !).

*Coach Dean Clark will take over our Olympic medal producing Shotgun Team in March. Dean is a shotgun Hall of Famer, holder of multiple national and world skeet records, an Olympian, and a strong leader. He earned his Black Hat at AMU in the early 1980s. It's great to have him back.

Both were selected from a field of exceptionally strong candidates and are exactly the right men to lead their teams to Olympic Gold in 2004.

MAJOR MATCHES AT FORT BENNING

We are really pleased to host 4 big events at our world class ranges this year:

Shotgun National Team Selection – 28 Feb – 10 Mar
Interservice Pistol – 11 – 14 Jun (for the first time ever !)
All international events National Team Selection – 13-23 Sep
Championship of the Americas – 22 Sep – 7 Oct

These are important and very valuable opportunities for us to showcase the unit and the U.S. Army to both the national and international shooting communities. As always, we'll need and count on the help of many MMA volunteers to pull off each event in our traditionally first class manner. Please let us know if you are available to help.

OUR SERGEANT MAJOR MADE THE COMMAND LIST!

We were so excited and proud to see SGM Gabe Ossa recently be picked among only 4 from all of Fort Benning to be a COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR. He is a great soldier and very deserving of this rare honor to which many aspire but few are chosen. We'll miss him as he moves out to take charge of an Infantry Battalion some place in the Army in the near future. HOOAH for OSSA!!!

NEW AMU COMMANDER

We are fortunate to have the Army send us an outstanding Colonel of Infantry to assume command of the AMU on 11 April. Colonel Bob Hoidahl is a distinguished soldier of broad experience around the Army. He is the current Deputy Assistant Commandant of the Infantry Center. He knows the Fort Benning turf, and among many medals and badges he wears an EIC pistol award!.....so he is far better qualified for AMU command than yours truly back in 1997! Bob and Leanne Hoidahl will be very successful at USAMU. Please come out and welcome them to the team at our change of command ceremony at 1300, Wednesday, 11 April...vicinity of the Pool Complex. The band will play and it will be a great day for USAMU.

FINALLY

For Cordy and I it's been truly a great honor and great fun to serve as part of the world's greatest shooting team. The USAMU is a national treasure that we will continue to support in any way possible in the years ahead. We extend our deepest thanks and gratitude to the many great Americans of the MMA. Without your hard work and support this magnificent unit would surely not exist today. THANK YOU!

MMA President's Report

Phil Cannella

I take this initial opportunity to thank all of you for your vote of confidence as the Association's fourth elected President. Following Bill Blankenship, Willis Powell, and Mac Johnson gives me a real sense of pride. I've been handed the torch to take our Association to a higher level of achievement and I promise you an earnest effort to accomplish this mission.

I accept this responsibility. The tasks and goals we set in the new millennium, will be less difficult knowing the elected officers of our Association have immense background and experience.

We are a TEAM. I emphasize TEAM because it was my experience, in my association with the AMU; the mission accomplishment was always considered a team effort. The USAMU has and will continue to be the focal point for Army marksmanship and World shooting accomplishment. It is our job to promote and support this interest. This will be my motivation as your President.

I won't recap the Association's 2000 accomplishments. Mac Johnson has already done this in his President's Reports to you in past issues of the MMA Times. He was the driving force in the many accomplishments achieved by the Association during his tenure as President.

Our Association officers, for 2001, are basically the same hard workers with the exception of our new Vice President Richard "Rick" Hawkins. I've had some experience working with him, specifically, while in support of USAMU volunteer duties at the range. He is exceptionally knowledgeable of the USAMU marksmanship program and the administration of such efforts. We can expect him to make my carrying the torch much easier.

Most of you are familiar with my background. My experience with the USAMU covers approximately 10 years of my Army career. I was assigned duties of Instructor/Shooter in both Service Rifle and International Rifle, OIC Service Rifle Branch, Chief Competitive Division, and, at times, Acting Commander. I've had the privilege of serving under Colonels Montgomery, Hinds, and Parmentier. All taught me well and gave me responsibility, without shadowing me, to accomplish the mission and goals assigned and expected of me and of those serving with me. I am the type leader who speaks my mind; I'M A TEAM player and believe in playing no favorites. I've always tried to be fair and will listen to all input, both positive and negative, before making decisions. If not able to accomplish a goal, because of stumbling blocks, policy, etc., I will seek other options or compromising ends to accomplish, in part, what can be done now.

My relationship with the teams of the past is fondly remembered. I worked hard for the good of all and not the few. Then as today, I consider myself an organization-oriented person. I do not tolerate BS nor do I care for individual self-servers. Those of you who have worked with me know my heart is in the right place. I've tried to be a straight shooter (no pun intended). As your President, I pledge to you to work for the good of all Association members.

It is my hope, YOU, the membership will join me and the officers of the Association by making yourselves part of the Association Team. I ask you to do three things. First, send me your ideas and recommendations how the Association can serve you better. Second, Ken Hamill and the Association will appreciate all records, data, and photos (preferably 8x10's) you wish to release to us for our records and future "show and tells" at the reunions. The mailing address is shown in the heading of the MMA Times Newsletter or on the Association's Web Site at <http://www.militarymarksmanship.org>. And while you are online, visit the web site of USAMU at <http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/amu> to see what is happening at USAMU. Third, please submit your AMU stories (as YOU remember them) so that we might share them with all the membership in the MMA Times. Don't worry about writing style; we'll clean them up for publication. I'll recall a few stories from my own involvement with those of you that I've had the occasion to work with over the years.

By the time my message is seen in the MMA Times, Dick Rebidue, our Membership Chairman will have updated the 2001 Membership Directory so that you can reach each other by personal mail, phone, or e-mail. Dick put a lot of work into this expanded directory. Thanks Dick for job well done!

Finally, we must not forget, we would accomplish very little without the support of the USAMU Commander, Colonel Arch Arnold and his exceptional staff. I look forward to working closely with him and his staff, and upon Colonel Arnold's retirement, his replacement regarding USAMU concerns and our own MMA goals. With your support we can achieve our goals and make this a better Association.

MMA Soldier of the Year: SFC Todd Graves

MMA

The MMA Soldier of the Year is Sergeant First Class Todd Graves of Shotgun. Todd had a remarkable year capped off by winning the Bronze Medal in skeet at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia. In addition to the Olympic medal he won the Olympic Selection match in Colorado. Todd was earlier selected as the U. S. Army Male Athlete of the Year.

Other section nominees for the award had highly successful years also. CPT Glenn Dubis, International Rifle was a member of the 2000 Olympic Team. Additionally, he was the high shooter in all individual and team matches of all countries competing in CISM. He was the first shooter to accomplish this in the history of CISM.

PFC Max Michel of Action Shooting was the 2000 Pan-American Junior Champion and the 2000 Open National Junior Champion. He was a bronze medalist and the High Military in the 2000 Open Nationals. He was also the USPSA Interservice champion.

SFC Roger Jacobsen, Service Pistol, won the national Trophy Individual match and the Forces Command trophy at Camp Perry. He was a member of the gold medal Center Fire team and a member of the gold medal .22 cal team at the national championships. Also, he was a member of the silver medal aggregate teams at Interservice and the Nationals.

SFC Daryl Szarenski of International Pistol was a member of the 2000 Olympic Team. He won Free Pistol at the National Championships.

SFC Lance Dement, Running Target, was a member of the 2000 Olympic team and finished 2nd in the National Selection Match.

SFC Grant Singley, Service Rifle, won the National Trophy Individual match at Camp Perry. He placed second in the SR category at Perry and second in Service Rifle Interservice individual. He was a member of the winning 10 Man Team.

Mr. Richard Hopp, Custom Firearms Shop, was instrumental in the USAMU placing five soldiers on the U.S. Olympic team. His efforts as the CISM armorer resulted in U.S. domination of the CISM rifle events. USAMU domination of all events in the U.S. are due in part to his efforts as the international rifle gunsmith.

Smith and Wesson Firearms Corporation donated a .22 Match Trophy Pistol to the Association as the Soldier of the Year award.

William E. (Bill) Krilling Retires

USAMU PAO

War hero and sports icon William E. Krilling, coach of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit International Rifle Team, was honored March 2nd during a retirement gala at the Historic Iron Works Convention and Trade Center in Columbus, Georgia. Bill Krilling, 74, is retiring after nearly 53 years of federal service. He has been the USAMU International Rifle Team coach for the past 27 years and has coached 14 USAMU Olympians, four of whom won Olympic Medals. He was the 1998 U.S. Olympic Committee National Shooting Coach of the Year and was an Olympic Jury Member for the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

A decorated war veteran, Krilling received the Distinguished Service Cross for his heroism during the Korean War. He is a retired U.S. Army Master Sergeant.

More than 250 people from five different countries were present at the dinner honoring this internationally respected shooter, coach, and judge. Some of the VIPs attending included: Deiter Anschutz, President of the Anschutz Rifle Corporation of Germany; Horst Schreiber, the Secretary General of the International Shooting Sports Federation from Germany; General Jin Sam Lee, retired Chief of Staff of the South Korean Army; Colonel Jens Nyard, Chief Veterinarian of the Norwegian Army; Gary Anderson, Director of the Civilian Marksmanship Program, Camp Perry, Ohio; representatives from the National Rifle Association; Major Gordon R. Roberts, the only active duty Medal of Honor recipient; numerous Olympic Gold Medalists from around the country; and former USAMU Commanders.

Five JROTC students from Hardaway High School were the color guard, accompanied by LTC (Ret) Thomas Whitley and SGM James W. Guynn, Hardaway JROTC instructors. A surprise guest was Krilling's Company Commander in Korea, CPT Tom C. Odderstol, who had recommended him for the Congressional Medal of Honor. Neither had seen each other since 1953.

While the audience stood at attention, USAMU Deputy, Bob Aylward, read the Distinguished Service Cross citation awarded in 1953. He noted that it had never been officially presented to Bill. Remarks closed citing Mr. Krilling as a National Sports Treasure which lead to a standing ovation and rousing applause for Krilling.

ANNUAL REPORTS

Membership

Current Active Members	473
60 New members this year	
38 Non-renewals this year	
Inactive Members	303
Total Names in Member Database	776
Names in Database Who Never Joined MMA	384

Recording Secretary

Web Site

Online 15 March 2000 (Over 150 pages, 65 images)
Almost 10,000 "Hits"
Received National Recognition

Treasurer

Balance as of 31 Dec 99	\$16.5K
Balance as of 31 Dec 00	\$19.7K
Liabilities	\$3.4K
Net Worth	\$16.3K

Historian

31 Donors in 2000
From 12 states between
East Coast and Hawaii

American Rifleman Inventory

Need Jul '94 and Aug '99

Thanks for Putting Names to Faces

Taps, Present Arms

Master Sergeant Joe Klues

Master Sergeant Joe Klues, 80, died January 21, 2001, in Quincy, Illinois.

Joe Klues was an combat Infantryman who saw action in World War II and the Korean war. Joe, age 20, was assigned to the 27th Infantry Regiment "Wolfhounds" at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941, when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. Joe remained with the 25th Infantry Division during the Pacific campaign. He was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) and Purple Heart medal as a result of being wounded during the retaking of the Philippine Islands.

Joe earned the first star (second award) on his Combat Infantryman Badge with the 45th Infantry Division in Korea while serving as a Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Leader, First Sergeant, and acting Company Commander.

MSG Joe Klues was an impressive man. He stood 6' 7" and weighed 280 pounds. He was called "Big Joe" for his obvious physical appearance but the term was reverently used to acknowledge his unselfish help to others.

MSG Klues was the driving force behind the marksmanship program at Fort Lewis, Washington, in late fifties through the early sixties. For a number of years in the mid-sixties he was the noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge of the Sixth Army Army Marksmanship Training Unit (MTU) Pistol Team that competed at the annual All-Army Matches at Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of those matches, Joe was selected to coach Army Teams at the National Matches, Camp Perry, Ohio.

Joe was a "2600" pistol shooter and had earned the Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge and the Distinguished Rifleman Badge.

MSG Klues retired from the Army to Hannibal, Missouri in 1965. He worked as a Certified Federal Officer in nearby Springfield, Missouri until 1982.

Those who served with "Big Joe" will recall him as a "one of a kind" soldier, noncommissioned officer, and great American.

NOTICE

Anyone knowing a current address or phone number for Fernando Muniz please contact a member of the MMA Executive Board. Send email, snail mail, or call.

Donations / Thanks

Thank you to **Harland V. Rennolds** of Columbus, Georgia for donating trophies, photos and memorabilia. The Blackington team trophy had been awarded for winning the 1972 Interservice Free Pistol Championship. U.S. Army Blue won with a score of 2197. Team members were Emil W. Heugatter, Hershel L. Anderson, Harland V. Rennolds and John R. Sicinski. The miniature gold cup is engraved on one side "Presented By American Expeditionary Force For Annual Pistol Team Competition" and engraved on the other side "1958 Won By U.S. Army Score 1128-34X. There were large U.S. Army decals and a backpatch. There were U.S. Team Brossard and pocket patches. There were several small photos of the firing line at Camp Perry and the U.S. Team in Korea in 1978. There were 28 NRA award pins.

Thank you to **Forest R. Smith** of Columbus, Georgia for donating photos, orders and a match bulletin. Three 5" X 7" photos show Forest in uniform and posing with a pistol. Four 8" X 10" photos show Forest teaching at a Pistol Clinic at Fort Sill, displaying his award .45 Colt pistol won at Quantico in July 1950, plus Forest, Lloyd Burchett and Gora Elzworth at the NRA Convention in 1960. A wide-angle 8" X 20" photograph depicts the U.S. Army Pistol Team at the 1954 National Matches, Camp Perry, Ohio. Forest Smith, Fred Keifer, Joe Benner, Tom Sharpe, Okie Weinmeister, Art Purser and Wade Oakley are members of the 34 man team. Two wide angle photos were taken at the 1950 and 1952 National Mid Winter Pistol Matches, Tampa, Florida. Several dozen, perhaps 300 - 400 competitors are shown in each of the Mid Winter photographs. The awards bulletin from the 1962 Mid Winter Pistol Championship will be added to the USAMU Library. USAAMU Special Orders dated February 1960 lists weapons qualifiers: Cecil Stevens was high with rifle and Forest Smith high with pistol. The March 1962 Special Orders identify James McNally high with pistol and Al Falcon high with rifle. Another March 1962 SO names proficiency pay awardees O'Neill, Gilbert, Smith, Stevens, Ambler, Edwards, Tubbs, Harden, Redfern, Horton, Teague, Fallin and our Treasurer Sam Hunter.

Keeping in Touch

© **Forest R. Smith** of Columbus, Georgia enlisted in the Army less than 60 days after Pearl Harbor on 3 February, 1941. He graduated from 90 day OCS at Harmony Church, Fort Benning in November 1942. During the big war he trained in England, Scotland and Ireland, then on to France and Germany. He was selected to be a member of the All Army Pistol Team in July 1950. He qualified for the Distinguished Pistol Badge as a member of the winning trophy team at the National Matches, Camp Perry in 1954. He gyroscoped to Germany with the 10th Mountain Division where he commanded G Company, 85th Inf. Regt. at Bamberg. He was also the Headquarters Commandant at Wurzburg in 1957. He built two turning target ranges while Post Range Officer at Fort Riley in 1958-59. He was assigned to USAAMU as a pistol shooter-coach-instructor in October 1959 where he remained until his retirement on 31 January 1963. He was the Division manager for the Hamilton Management Corporation and Hartford Life and Accident until retiring in 1978. He enjoys hunting, bowling and gardening. Forest and Goldia Smith have 5 children, 7 grandchildren, 3 great grandchildren with 2 more on the way.

A TDY Story

Jimmie McCoy

While on one of our European training trips back in the mid 80's I was rooming with the infamous Fred Keifer. Fred was the International coordinator for the Pistol and rifle sections at that time. We were staying in a very small German "Gasthaus" in a small community just outside of Freiburg. I awoke one morning to sounds of hacking, spitting, and coughing. Being concerned about the old Colonel I rushed to the restroom to see what the problem was. There Fred was, Tooth brush in hand and a very sour look on his face. I asked him if he was OK and he reluctantly answered, "I put Preparation H on my tooth brush again!!!!" His next statement was don't say anything to anyone! Right Fred!

A Ferguson Tale

Sam Hunter

Here is another tale involving the late, great, and colorful SGM George C. Ferguson. The setting: early evening in the late 50's in the nicely grassed grove of stately live oaks and pine trees next to the old Tampa Police Pistol Range on North Rome Avenue, Tampa, Florida. A couple of hundred people, draft beer or other refreshments in hand, are standing around socializing and waiting for the traditional fish fry to be served after a day's shooting of the National Mid-Winter Pistol Championships.

The crowd had been hushed for the chaplain, who was standing at the ready, to give the invocation. That is, all except for sporadic bursts of loud chuckles and guffaws emanating from a knot of two or three dozen men over in the corner of the area who were raptly listening to one of George's more raunchy jokes.

Finally someone yelled, "Hey, George!" and as Ferguson paused and turned his head, "Grace!" Ferguson said, "OK", turned around to face the crowd, and without hesitation, launched into one of the most beautiful and applicable-to-the-occasion prayers one would ever hear.

Reminiscing

Kenner Ravencraft

Kenner remembers great shooter Ray Campbell harassing one of the Marine or Air Force shooters. Ray placed a heavy rock in the shooters stool. The shooter carried the extra weight throughout the match. After a few days, Ray went to the shooter, pulled the heavy rock out of his stool and said something like, "look what you've been carrying around, dummy". A few days later back at Benning, Ray received a C.O.D. package at the Post Office. He paid the C.O.D. and opened the package to find his heavy rock had been returned. Ray remembers the culprit as that damn ex Air Force guy Pat Boyle and says he received the large rock twice. Once on the Black Canyon Range in 1968 and again by C.O.D. package in 1986.

Web Sites

Here's a few sites on the internet that may be of interest to our membership

MMA - www.militarymarksmanship.org

Everything you want to know about the MMA and interesting articles on current events

USAMU - www.usarec.army.mil/hq/amu

Info and photographs of the "Home of Champions"

Edweek - www.armedforcesnews.com

Items of interest to Retirees including a free weekly News letter and Booklets on benefits and services

Stories needed: If you remember a funny, inspiring or interesting shooting experience, please share it with us, so we can share it with the membership through the AMUA Times.

Please send your experiences or second hand stories to:
MMA Times Editor, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025.



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