



# MMA TIMES

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## USAMU Reunion: 3 inducted into Hall of Fame, New Marksmanship Association officers elected

### MMA

USAMU hosted its 46th Reunion 18 and 19 October. Over 300 MMA members, spouses, and guests attended. We had beautiful fall sunny weather with the early morning lows around 50 and mid-day temperatures reaching 72 degrees. It was just the right kind of weather to stand around and tell tales of days gone by.

The reunion honored the shooters and staff of the Army Marksmanship Unit and provided an opportunity for the shooters of the past to meet the shooters of the present. On Saturday three great shooters were inducted into the USAMU Hall of Fame: Hershel L. Anderson, John R. Foster, and Bonnie D. Harmon. These three men joined the 17 other former members of the USAMU who are in the Hall of Fame. USAMU Commander Col. Robert I. Hoidahl, Jr. introduced the guest speaker at the Hall of Fame Ceremony - Joel B. Hudson, the administrative assistant to the secretary of the Army.

"Over the years, I have watched both marksmanship training and competition. At those matches, I have observed the difficulty and the hard work necessary to become champions among the finest competitive shooters," Hudson said. "Today, we are here to induct three former members of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit into the Hall of Fame. These individuals were not only great shooters and champions, they served their country admirably as soldiers, whether that be in Germany, Vietnam, Korea or here in the United States. "Although match competition is important, even more important to the Army is the goal of maintaining combat effectiveness," Hudson continued. "Through their hard work, today's inductees helped the Army accomplish this goal. They and other soldiers like them have heightened public trust and confidence in the Army. While the 21st century has already presented us with many difficult challenges, I

am confident that the soldiers of today and of the future will meet these challenges and that the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit will continue its unparalleled success."

Former USAMU Commanders Jeremiah Mackenzie, Mac Johnson, and Arch Arnold were recognized in the ceremony. Also present at the ceremony were: Charles Maddox, Florida civilian aide to the secretary of the Army; retired LTG William B. Caldwell; Fort Benning Deputy Commander COL Stephen R. Layfield; and former USAMU members Robert Mitchell, director of USA Shooting, and Olympic Gold Medalist Gary Anderson, director of the Civilian Marksmanship Program.

We conducted a MMA Meeting and election of officers in conjunction with the reunion. Our President (Phil Cannella) and Vice President (Rick Hawkins) announced that they were unable to continue serving as officers of the association. Two of our members allowed their names to be presented to the membership for election. Arch Arnold, President elect, and Bruce Meredith, Vice President elect, were unanimously voted into their respective positions by the membership present. They will assume their new duties at the January 2003 General Membership Meeting. Thanks Phil and Rick for your untiring service and time to the members of the association. And thanks to Arch and Bruce for volunteering to guide the association in the coming years.

### MMA Annual Meeting

25 January 2003  
3 PM at Pool Range, Ft Benning



## USAMU Commander's Report

Col Robert I. Hoidahl, Jr.

One of the first things I was briefed on when taking command of the USAMU was the OPTEMPO. On those briefing slides the Oct-Dec timeframe indicated a slowdown of activities. I believe those charts have proved to be highly inaccurate. From hosting the Pan American Games Fall Selection matches to sending teams around the world for competitions, train-the-trainers, and assisting USAREC with the recruiting portion of our mission, I can assure you, our OPTEMPO hasn't slowed down!

In early October USAMU opened its ranges to the best American international shooters that are active today. Highlighting the growing cooperation between USA Shooting and USAMU, these competitions were run without a hitch and all shooters left satisfied that the scores posted were a true indication of their talent.

Immediately following the Fall Selection Match, USAMU and MMA hosted the forty-sixth anniversary reunion. Over three hundred past and present members of USAMU returned to Fort Benning on 18 and 19 October to rehash old times and to see today's superb soldiers. In concert with the reunion the USAMU Hall of Fame induction ceremony was conducted. We were honored that Mr. J.B. Hudson (Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army) was able to join us in inducting three truly talented alumni. I had the pleasure of meeting Jack Foster, Bonnie Harmon and Herschel Anderson. I have seen the USAMU soldiers of today shoot and they are pretty good. However, after reading the accomplishments of these three gentlemen, I would have purchased a ticket to watch them shoot during their day! My congratulations go out to these three gentlemen and my thanks to the MMA staff led by Phil Cannella, USAMU operations office led by CPT Kim Howe and SFC George Frazier as well as all the USAMU soldiers that pitched in to make this a great event.

Also during this quarter, we did some great shooting as well. A three person team led by master pistol smith SSG Joe Harless, traveled to South Africa to compete in the World Action Shooting Championships. SPC Max Michel fired on the United States Men's Team that won the World Championships and SSG Julie Goloski earned a silver medal on the United States Women's team. In addition SFC Todd Graves traveled to Lonato Italy for the World Cup Final. He won the competition with a 149X150 and left Italy not only as the World Cup Champion, but with the number one world ranking as listed by the ISSF.

This has been a busy period for the AMU and I look forward to the OPTEMPO slowing down around the holidays. With that, have a great Thanksgiving and a happy holiday season.

### *Hall of Fame Inductees*

*John R. Foster, a rifle shooter, won 15 Gold, 14 Silver and one Bronze Medal in international competition in both Running Target and International Rifle events, which places him in fifth place in all-time medal count for American shooters. The two-time Olympian, four-time world champion and world-record setter also served as a sniper instructor during two tours in Vietnam.*

*A former service pistol shooter and coach, Bonnie D. Harmon served 30 years in the Army, including three tours in Germany, one tour in Vietnam as a sniper instructor and one tour in Korea as a first sergeant. He was a four-time national pistol champion, five-time interservice pistol champion, and the 1968 President's Hundred Pistol Champion. Harmon also won two medals at the 1974 World Shooting Championships and was a two-time champion at the Conseil International du Sport Militaire Shooting Championships - called CISM.*

*Herschel L. Anderson was a two-time national pistol champion, a three-time interservice pistol champion and won the President's Hundred Pistol Match twice. The two-time Olympian earned five medals in three Pan-American Games as well as the Distinguished International Shooter Badge and Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge. A tanker, Anderson served in the Berlin Brigade and with the Americal Division Sniper School in Vietnam.*



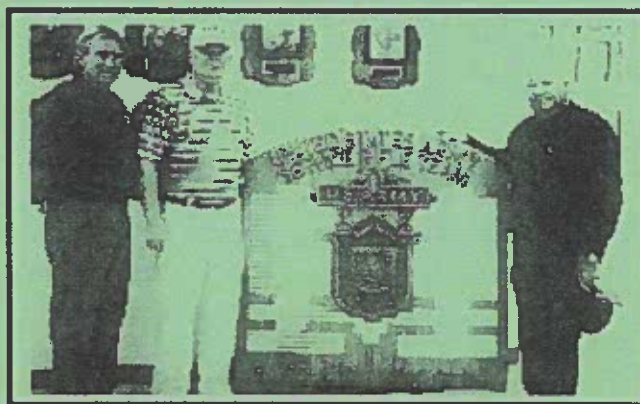
## MMA President's Report

Phil Cannella

I guess it's true: time does fly when you're having fun! I've enjoyed being your President for the past two years. Looking back, we have managed to enhance the growth of our Association. Most of the credit must be given the Association's Executive Board. Thanks to Rick Hawkins, our Vice President, for his willingness to assist me in some knotty situations and for his effort helping me prepare the Annual General Membership computer briefings. Thanks goes to "Red" Mosely for his work as Secretary and as Webmaster of the MMA web site. Thanks to Sam Hunter for his work as Treasurer. His accounting is meticulous — insuring that your Association remains financially solid. Thanks for the great effort by Carter Berry in the publication of the Association's newsletter, "The MMA Times." The information provided in the newsletter is what keeps us in touch with each other and provides a continuing link to the USAMU. Thanks to Dick Rebidue who has given us so much of his personal time working in the MMA office and at home keeping our membership database up-dated and publishing our annual Membership Directory. Thanks to our Historian, Ken Hamill, for being the link to the past. His continuing effort has produced a photographic record of the Unit's history. I know you enjoyed seeing his photo albums at the reunion. I've said it many times: without the great support of the USAMU Commander and his staff, the Association would only be a "good-ole-boy" operation. Thanks to Colonel Hoidahl, Bob Aylward, CPT Howe, SFC Frazier, the S3 crew, and the many other USAMU members that have made our efforts successful. Finally, I thank Nancy Pool, Judy Boyd, Anne Pallotta, "Mac" Johnson, and the membership that volunteered and assisted the Executive Board in the conduct of the reunion.

The 46th Reunion was great! I can report to those of you who were not able to attend that it was well done with over 300 members and guests participating in the celebration. It was nice to see many of the old crew again. Coordination, planning, preparation, and conduct of the reunion between the USAMU Command/Staff and the MMA Executive Board went especially well. Congratulations to the three new USAMU Hall of Fame inductees: Hershel Anderson, Bonnie Harmon, and John Foster. Congratulations also to COL (Ret) "Arch" Arnold and COL (Ret) Bruce Meredith for being elected as our next Association President and Vice President respectively. They will assume office in January 2003 at the General Membership Meeting.

The Service Rifle retirees had an informal gathering at the Golden Corral Steak House the Thursday before the reunion. This gathering was a sight to behold: Pat Boyle, Chester Hamilton, and approximately 60 others—many not seen for a number of years—showed up. It was my pleasure to present a large plaque to honor many past Service Rifle shooters, gunsmiths, and support personnel. Coach Donnie Hueman, current Service Rifle Coach, accepted the "Service Rifle Roll of Honor" plaque. The plaque will be displayed at the Service Rifle building located on Easley Range.



Phil Cannella presented a Service Rifle Roll of Honor plaque to Coach Donnie Hueman. Service Rifle Hall of Famer William R. Lee looks on.

The USAMU held a Fall Golf Scramble on the 5th of November. Congratulations go to the winning foursome headed up by Colonel Hoidahl. I had intended to play but had already committed myself to a fishing trip down in the Panama Canal Zone. Jerry Lebish set it up with an in-country friend. Doug Duncan, Jerry, and I enjoyed seven great days of Peacock bass fishing at Gatun Lake. I'm sure you will remember how great the fishing was if you were assigned in Panama. A highlight of our trip was seeing Fernando Muniz, a 1960's vintage Service Rifle coach. We had a great time recalling bygone shooting times. The only negative was my ankles got sun burned and Duncan lost his baggage on return. If you are looking for a great fishing trip at a minimum cost, Panama is the place to go. We averaged spending about \$1,000.00 each and that included round trip airfare, the finest hotel in Panama, free breakfast, and all other miscellaneous expenses. If interested, call Jerry Lebish for coordination with his contact.

Congratulations to Coats Brown who celebrated his 94th birthday on the 13th of November. I called Coats and he is doing fine and remains sharp as a tack. He wished us his very best. It was great seeing him at the reunion, too. Find a moment in your schedule to send him a belated birthday card or give him a call.

I hope that some of you will find time to attend the Association's Annual General Membership meeting to be held the 25th of January at 3 PM in Pool Indoor Range. More information will be posted on the MMA web site. I look forward to seeing many of you at the Annual General Membership meeting so we can join Colonel Hoidahl, your Executive Board, and the attending membership in congratulating the USAMU "Soldier of the Year" for 2002.

Remember, keep in mind those that are in need, communicate with our own who may be having a difficult time or just need some support to help make it through the holidays. Drive safely. Thanks, again, for your support during my tenure as your President. Merry Christmas and a blessed, healthy, and most prosperous New Year to all!



## USAR Shooter Profile – David Ross III, Army Reserve International Rifle Team

Continuing with the profiles of the inductees of the U S Army Reserve Roll of Honor, another ex-AMU shooter who excelled as a marksman is David Ross III.

David was born 16 November 1940 in New York, New York. He started shooting in an NRA program at summer camp and earned the NRA's Junior Distinguished Badge. He was a member of his high school rifle team and captained the Yale University Rifle Team from 1960 until 1962 where he was selected for the first-team All American honors.

Commissioned in 1963, he graduated from the Medical Service Corps Officer Basic Course and was assigned to the USAMU International Rifle Section from 1964 – 1966. After leaving active duty, David was a member of the II Corps Rifle Team and joined the USAR International Rifle Team at its founding.

At the Pan American Games in Winnipeg, Canada in 1967, he was a member of the gold-medal world-record setting team. His individual performance of 598 equaled the world record. As a result, he added the International Distinguished Badge to his NRA Smallbore Rifle Prone and Position Badges.

Between 1967 and 1970, David completed a master's degree at Harvard University's Graduate School of Business. Following graduation in 1970, Ross won the USA National Prone Championship at Camp Perry, Ohio. In 1971, David won a gold team medal as a member of the USA Pan American Games Smallbore Prone Team in Cali, Columbia. He was named the British Smallbore Prone Championships at Bisley, England in 1973.

In 1975 he won the USA National-International Smallbore Rifle Prone Championship placing him on the Pan American Games team to Mexico City where he won the Gold individual medal and a gold team medal in the English Match. David Ross continued his prowess as a prone shooter by again winning the USA National-International Smallbore Rifle Prone Championship in 1976 which placed him on the USA Montreal Olympic Team. During the 1977 Championships of the Americas in Mexico City, David won another gold team medal with the 50 meter Free Rifle Prone Team from the USA.

While a member of the USAR Team, Major Ross also served on the NRA Smallbore Rifle Committee and NRA Finance Committee as well as the USOC Budget and Audit Committee. He was a founding member of the board of directors of the International Shooter Development Fund and the National Archery Association Endowment Fund. David was a co-founder of the Sterling Consulting Group.

He is currently an Adjunct Professor of Finance at Rice University in Houston, Texas. He serves as a director of a New York Stock Exchange company as well as several non-profit foundations. David can be reached at telephone 713-520-7677 and e-mail at [dr@rosses.com](mailto:dr@rosses.com)

## THANKS / DONATIONS

© Thank you to **Coats Brown** of Dacula, Georgia for donating four 8" X 10" photographs. The first taken at Fort Benning, Georgia in August 1952 during the National High Power Rifle Championships includes 30 Army team members - Pfc K.L. Weiss, Capt C. Gordon, M/Sgt N.W. Voight, Lt R. H. Conley, Capt R.S. Dobak, Maj J.E. Batchelder, Lt E.E. Bishop, Capt D. Pidgeon, Lt R.C. Brock, Capt E.H. Malone, Capt R. Orton, Capt M.O. Belson, Maj W.S. Brooks, Capt H.J. Erickson, Lt T.A. Breen, Sfc H.W. Hankins, Pfc M.G. Brown, Capt Dave B. Parsons, Pfc C.E. Fromm, M/Sgt O.L. Gallman, Sfc W. Fristik, Capt J.F. McCubbin-Coach, Lt Col Frank Barnett-Team Captain, WOJG Coats Brown-Coach, Lt H.B. Voelcker, M/Sgt Dan Huntley, Lt Col C. Hankins and 3 unknowns. An 8 September 1956 photo taken at Camp Perry depicts Captain Richard H. Conley USA receiving the Army Times Award from Admiral Morton C. Mumma. Another 1956 photo taken at Camp Perry shows the Enlisted Mens Trophy Team Champions including Sgt John F. Mooney, Lt Orlando N. Dirienzo, Sfc John D. Martin, Capt Richard H. Conley, M/Sgt Harold W. Hankins, Capt John H. Asbury, Lt Col Frank Palmer-Coach, Maj Carl W. Byers and Maj Ray Orton-Team Captain. A September 1957 photo taken at Camp Perry by a Sp-2 Washington depicts the winning Infantry Trophy team including 1/Lt James G. Brannon, 1/Lt Richard G. Hinkle, M/Sgt Harold W. Hankins, Capt Richard H. Conley, CWO Coats Brown, M/Sgt Robert E. Williams, Capt Charles S. Gordon and 1/Lt Richard D. Wentworth.

© Thank you to **John D. Loomis** of Salinas, California for donating a 8" X 10" photograph. The 1959 shot taken at Mun Son Ni, Korea, one mile south of Freedom Bridge, 4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Range, during the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division Matches. The designated Division Team consisted of Joe Farmarco, Bob Moats, John Loomis-Individual Champion, Halverson, Harold Wilson, Lewis, Arnold Rode and two unknowns.

© Thank you to **Stuart Watkins** of Tucson, Arizona for donating seventeen 4" X 6" photos. Those taken at Camp Perry depict Sgt Martin Gunnarsson with his wife and young son; Lt Gary Anderson and his wife Ruthann; Lt Margaret Thompson, Al Freeland with a Brit shooter; CPT Denny Dingman and Lt Don Adams; Vic Auer preparing his targets; Lt David Ross. Photos taken at Parks Range, Fort Benning show CPT Jack Foster; SFC Ken Evans, Gene Kolstad; David I. Boyd; Jack Writer, Boyd Goldsby and Gary Anderson. Photos taken on McAndrew or Easley Ranges, Fort Benning include a young Bruce Merideth; LTC William Pullum and WO Chief Atkins; LTC William Pullum and WO Chief Atkins in conference with MSG Chuck Finn; the final shot taken at the last reunion on 8 October 2000 shows Stuart Watkins, Bill Krilling and William Pullum.

© Thank you to **Dick Rebidue** of Columbus, Georgia for donating a newspaper article and photograph. The February 1972 Columbus Times photo article highlights SFC Richard Rebidue with his son Mathieu seeing him off to Panama for the annual Concurso De Tiro. The 20" X 8" photograph depicts 28 members of the 1956 Fifth Army Rifle Team at Camp Perry. Fernando Muniz, Clyde Burns, Dick Rebidue, Lamonte Aslin, Lt Richard Wentworth and MAJ Harold Fraker are recognized. Readable nametags ID LT Rose, LT Apuna, MSG Blocker, MSG Fort, and LTC Cosgrove.



## Coats Brown, A Legacy

Ken Hamill

**This series is about the life and times of a shooting legend. At 94 years old, Coats Brown still has a remarkable memory. If you shot or worked for Coats Brown, please send any memories you have of those times to the Historian so the membership can share or relive those memories.**

A big garden provided most of the food requirements for the Brown family. They canned enough of their own food to last year round. They salted and smoked their meat, except for sausage, which was canned. Sausage was precooked and stacked neatly in glass jars, which were then filled with hot grease. Fruits such as figs, apples, pears, peaches and black berries were canned and made into preserves. Some fruits like apples and figs were also dried. Corn, peas, beans, turnips, carrots, okra and tomatoes were canned. They made their own vinegar in crock pots. After crushing the apples and collecting the juice, a large spoonful of last years vinegar with some scum on top was added to promote fermentation. The portion of last years vinegar was called "Mother". The process was similar to using fermented dough to leaven bread as with sourdough bread. They did buy flour, coffee and condiments such as sugar and salt. These goods came by steamboat up the Tom Bigbee River to the Myrtlewood general store. The coffee was bought green, parched in the oven and ground with a hand powered home grinder. Corn was taken to the mill on Saturday to be ground into fine meal and larger grits. Grits was a popular food staple in the south. Cooked as mush in the morning and fried with other food items such as meat for the dinner and supper meals. Nothing was wasted. All animal rendered fat was saved. The best was used for cooking and some was used for soap. Lye and animal rendered fat created soap. All of the firewood ash from the cookstove and the fireplace was saved in a barrel. The barrel had holes in the bottom. Water was poured on top of the ashes to leach through the mix and was collected under the bottom of the barrel, having become a lye solution. Top quality hominy grits were made at home by soaking corn kernels in a bowl of lye water to remove the kernel husks. The hominy would be washed several times to remove the lye. The Brown family made hominy about once a month, enough to last two or three meals. The courser grits and hominy were cooked the same way. Put them in a pot of water, boil and stir until they become a soft mush. Ice was delivered by buggy from Demopolis, usually once a month. A 100-LB block of ice wrapped well and placed in a wooden box would last 4 or 5 days. Milk and small amounts of food were lowered into the Brown deep well just above the waterline, which cooled and preserved the foodstuff. Commercial iceboxes appeared around 1925. Ice was delivered twice a week after the Brown family got a commercial icebox around 1930. Some people had springhouses, small buildings located adjacent to or over a natural spring. The extremely cold spring water flowing around large covered earthen kettles and jugs of food made food preservation convenient.

Coats saw an automobile for the first time in 1914 when he was six years old. It was an Oldsmobile. There were a number of makes of automobiles in the 1920's - Buick, Cadillac, Chevrolet, Durant, Ford, Hudson, Hup, Mercury, Oldsmobile, Packard, Pontiac, Reo, Star, Studebaker, and the Franklin which had an air cooled engine. There were wagon and buggy trails for one way traffic at the time. When two buggies met on a trail they stayed to the right and passed each other if the roadway was wide enough. More often, one buggy pulled off the trail and allowed the other to pass. Courtesy prevailed when the oncoming horse was easily startled or spooked, that buggy was given right of way. There were few bridges at the time. A small flat bottomed ferry boat carried horse and buggies and later cars across the Tom Bigbee River. One man working a rear-anchored paddle kept the nose of the boat pointed upstream while traversing the waterway in about twenty minutes.

## Keeping In Touch

© LTC (Ret) Donald R. Tryce lives in Austin, Texas. Assigned to MTU #5, Fort Riley, Kansas in 1974 as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. First commander was MAJ Gary Chittester. Served as OIC rifle group. Participated in the planning and conduct of the 5<sup>th</sup> Army Matches at Fort Riley in 1974, 1976 and 1977. Was a member of the USAMTU Rifle National Trophy Group in 1976 and 1977. Earned Distinguished Rifleman Badge in 1977. Assigned to USAMTU as assistant operations officer and served under LTC Davis and LTC Haskell 1977 - 1980. Supported ROTC highpower rifle during that period. After active duty marksmanship highlights included: State Marksmanship Coordinator for the Arizona Army National Guard 1982 - 83. OIC 5<sup>th</sup> Army NG Rifle Team 1985. State Marksmanship Coordinator for the Texas Army National Guard 1990 - 2000. OIC All Guard Rifle Team 1997 - 2000. Distinguished Pistol Shot 1999. Current civilian position is the hazardous material and waste manager for the Texas Army National Guard.

© Ronald L. Hoggatt and his wife Erma live in Leesville, Louisiana. They own a home on 60 acres and have been married for 43 years. Ron finds it difficult remembering the exact years, but did some shooting at Fort Rucker in 1959. He shot at Schofield Barracks with the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in 1962 and remembers Kenner Ravenscraft, Charley Miller, John Kahoilua, Ronald Barenaba and Jerry Llanos. He made the USARPAC team in 1963 and took Erma to Fort Niagara that summer. He shot with Third and Fifth Armies and the All Army National Trophy Group several summers while at Fort Benning and Fort Bragg in the 1960's and Fort Polk 1972 - 1977. He shot on several winning teams including the 1968? Infantry Trophy Championship at the Nationals, Camp Perry, Ohio. Earned his distinguished badge in 1974. Spent 1966 tour with Al Gore at MACV HQ, Bien Hoa. Served his second Vietnam tour with the Americal Division sniper group at Chu Lai in 1971. Retired from the Army in 1977. Ran several Leesville area convenience stores with a partner until 1997. Plays golf 5 days a week and tournament pool every Thursday evening. He has played in the National Billiards Championships at Las Vegas, Nevada seven times. Son Ron and daughter Faith with families live in Kansas, daughter Kim and family live in Leesville. Ron & Erma have 5 grandchildren and 1 great granddaughter. They send their very best to old friends including Frank & Barbara Smith (Gunsmith) of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.

**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: MMA Historian, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025.

**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: MMA Historian, PO Box 52025, Ft Benning, GA 31995-2025. Photos received will be captioned, placed in document protectors & notebook binders and stored in the USAMU Photo Archives.



## GENERATIONS

In another response to shooting generations at USAMU, LTC (Ret) **Stanford S. Brantley** thinks his family might run a close second to the Basshams (September 2002 Times).

While never directly assigned to USAMU, his peripheral support over several years should give him credit as a USAMU grandfather. He helped with summer squads in '56 and '58, was CO at the ARADCOM and 3rd Army marksmanship units '66-'67, then after a Vietnam tour was CONARC marksmanship coordinator. His son, **Maxey D. Brantley** and Maxey's son, **Michael Travis Brantley**, were assigned to USAMU's shotgun section.

Another couple of USAMU generations are the McNallys. **James H. McNally** distinguished himself and the unit with the international Rapid Fire Pistol in the '50s and '60s. His sons, **John T. McNally** and **Ken McNally**, followed suit in the early '80s.

## Taps, Present Arms

Col. **Ken Erdman USMCR (Ret)** passed away October 24 in California. He was a great guy and a top Marine competitor. He was buried with full Military Honors November 27 at Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, VA.

Sergeant Major (Retired) **Raymond B. Burton**, 69, died in Columbus, Georgia September 13. He was the USAMU Personnel SGM in the mid-sixties.

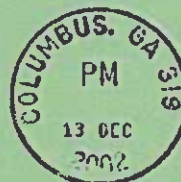
## CONWAY CHRONICLES

Francis B. Conway

*This story is continued from the previous "MMA Times" .....*  
After leaving Shiff the Gunman we went on to see a fellow in Lisbon, NH named Bailey. He walked kind of funny because he had lost all his toes to frostbite when it got to 40° below. First thing he tried to sell me was a 10 gage Ithaca for \$10.00. Unfortunately, I was broke, "pistol poor". He let us sleep in the barn which was nice because up till now we had been sleeping in the car. The next morning he came into the barn, pulled away some hay and lifted a canvas to expose his collection of 125 variants of Civil War carbines! Several were inventors models with no serial number or serial number one. They were not for sale. Years later, Jack Rugg of Century Arms told me what happened to them. After the war a fellow driving a station wagon dropped by the place and asked for Mr. Bailey. The new owner replied that Bailey had died several years ago and he had just bought the place. The visitor looked around and saw all the rifles laying around and asked what the owner was doing with them. The owner replied that he was building a chicken yard and was using the rifles for fence posts. He was going to drive the muzzle end into the ground with a big wooden maul and then staple the fence to the stocks. When asked why he did not use fence posts, the owner replied that fence posts cost \$1.25 each. The visitor asked if he bought fence posts could he have the rifles and the owner said that was fine because he would rather have fence posts. The visitor soon returned from town with a load of fence posts which he traded for all of the rifles.



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