



# MMA TIMES

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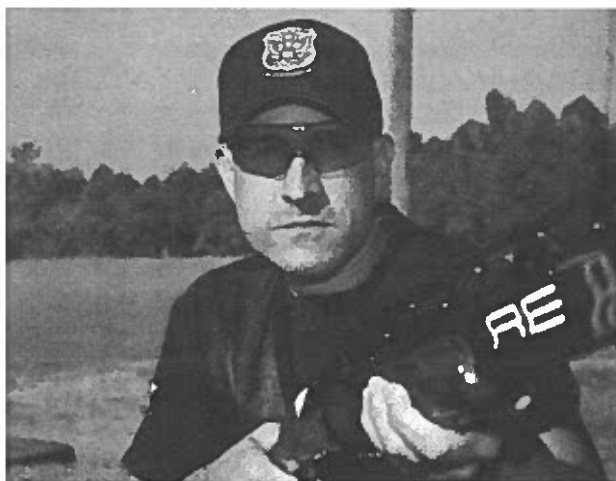
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## USAMU shooter wins Gold, Olympic quota slot



SFC Jeff Holguin won gold and brought home the second and final Men's Double Trap Olympic quota slot March 5 at the ISSF Shotgun World Cup in Acapulco, Mexico.

### USAMU PAO

U.S. Marksmanship Unit (USAMU) shotgun shooters led Team USA to gold and bronze medal victories for Men's Double Trap in the 2015 International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) Shotgun World Cup in Acapulco, Mexico, March 5.

SFC Jeff Holguin's 52-target shoot off against team mate SGT Derek Haldeman placed him in the gold medal match against China's Hu Binyuan.

"I didn't know if I was ever going to make it," Holguin said after the match to reporters. "First the qualifications, then the semi-final, a shoot-off, the medal match, and another shoot-off ... I don't know how many targets I had to break. It has been tough, but I was confident all the way through."

The gold-medal competitors would tie with 28 hits and Holguin went into his second shoot off of the day. He would come out ahead eight to seven, winning the gold medal.

"After the semi-final, during the shoot-off with my teammate Haldeman, for a moment I thought I was going to be tired at the end, but I stopped myself immediately, because I knew it was going to hurt me," Holguin said.

He explained that the last time he went through a long final thoughts like that led him to perform poorly in the medal match. This time he said he told himself he was shooting great and to keep going.

The victory earns the United States its second and final Olympic quota slot for Men's Double Trap. SFC Josh Richmond earned the first quota in the 2014 ISSF World Championship in Granada, Spain. Slots are awarded to national teams based on wins at qualifying international marksmanship events. Team members will be selected by a national committee prior to the 2016 games. A shooter can earn a spot on the team through points by winning international competitions.

"At least one Olympic quota will go back to our selection process, so we have

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## MMA President's Report

Rob Harbison



Greetings fellow MMA members! If you missed the annual meeting on January 29<sup>th</sup>, let me take this opportunity to share some of the highlights. Lieutenant Colonel Phil Cannella, past president of the MMA, moderated the meeting and made the presentation for the Soldier of the Year. Thanks Phil, and job well done!

**Membership:** We ended 2014 with 430 members including 140 living

life members.

**Finance:** The MMA Executive Board briefed the members on our review of 2012 and 2013 expenses and income, which showed an average of \$20 per year cost per member and \$18 per year average income per member. Although we ended the year in a strong financial position, the Executive Board continues to look for ways to creatively get our income above our expenses without impacting our mission. We are continuing that line of effort into 2015. The end state is to keep MMA financially solvent while continuing to support important annual operations.

### **Soldier of the Year Award:**

Sergeant First Class Horner of the Action Pistol Team took top honors as the 2014 Soldier of the Year. Among his many accomplishments during 2014 were winning the United States Practical Shooting Association 3 Gun National Championship and winning the US Army Special Operations Command sniper competition. Thanks to Smith and Wesson for providing the presentation firearm, an M&P 5.56 rifle. Our appreciation also goes to Jon McMullen and his staff at Shooters of Columbus for their assistance in the coordination for and transfer of the rifle. Thanks Jon!

Other team nominees for Soldier of the Year included:

- Sergeant McNeil, 2014 Individual Bronze medalist, World Shooting Championships in Women's 300 meter 3x20.
- Sergeant Joss, 2014 National Champion in both Para Air Rifle and Para 50 Meter Prone.
- Sergeant First Class Henderson, USAS National Champion in air pistol and free pistol.
- Sergeant First Class Richmond, 2014 ISSF Double Trap World Champion.
- Staff Sergeant Franks, 2014 Inter-service Champion and NRA National Service Pistol Champion.
- Staff Sergeant McElroy, top instructor and

## USAMU Commander's Report

LTC Bret A. Tecklenburg



Winter is coming to a close, the weather is beginning to warm and we have a busy spring and summer ahead of us. The USAMU Soldiers and Civilians continue to perform exceptionally and provide exceptional achievements. They are great representatives of our great Army as they demonstrate the importance of marksmanship, perform as world class professionals, provide USAMU credibility because of their

achievements, offer the Army exceptional expertise, and directly contribute toward our nation's ability to achieve overmatch against our current and future enemies.

In the past few months they have earned spots for the U.S. National Team for Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun and from our first international event, the World Cup for Shotgun in Mexico, we have already won gold and bronze medals as well as earned our second quota for the 2016 Olympics in Double Trap. Our Action Shooting Team, Service Rifle Team, and our Custom Firearms Shop have directly supported marksmanship training and built guns for some of U.S. Army Special Operations Command most elite operators. Our service teams (rifle and pistol) are working hard to ensure that they can dominate competitors at both inter-service competitions and the national matches. Our Instructor Training Group along with our service teams continue to make the Army better as they continue to improve the quality of the Master Marksmanship Trainer Course, doctrine and training, all of which improve the Army's ability to achieve overmatch. Overmatch is rendering the enemy ineffective through the use of tactics or capabilities, Soldiers who are highly effective marksmen provide a key capability.

We are taking deliberate steps to ensure the continued success for our competitors. This includes following up with some resources that we have successfully tapped into such as nutrition training, mental performance training, and utilizing external coaching resources. There is a small margin between good and great and I am committed to doing all that we can to ensure that we maintain our moniker as the "Home of Champions." We have some significant competitions coming up including selection matches and World Cups. We are also hosting some significant competitions that I hope some of you will get to come visit.

In December and again in February we held organizational days where our folks had the opportunity to compete against each other. These were a lot of fun. On 8 April

## Coats Brown Legacy

Ken Hamill

**This series is about the life and times of a shooting legend. If you shot or worked with or for Coats Brown, please send any memories you have of those times to the Editor so the membership can share or relive those memories.**

The Canadians were excellent soldiers and shooters and wonderful people. The exchanges brought formal dinners and social activities when held in Canada or in Georgia. The formal dinners at Camp Borden consisted of several courses. A place setting included a few wine glasses and multiple forks. When the host Colonel sat, everyone sat. Attendees did not excuse themselves to use the restroom until the Colonel had done so. There were toasts and much camaraderie. One year, a U.S. Lieutenant arrived 5 minutes late for the formal dinner. The host, Colonel Dextraze stood the Lieutenant at attention in front of the gathering, dressed him down and made him apologize for being late. The Regimental Sergeant Major (RSM) of RCS of I would open or close the Sergeants Club with a word to the manager. The Americans learned a new game from the RSM one year. With toes on a line in the pushup position raised slightly by the upright beer bottle in each hand, the game was to support yourself by one arm and upright beer bottle while placing the other bottle in the upright position as far forward as possible. No one beat the RSM, but J.D. Mercer beat just about everyone else and was definitely the U.S. champ. Sergeant Ralph Cathline, an outstanding rifle shot and gunsmith at RCS of I built the trophy for this match. It was a Brown Bess rifle supported in an antique walnut base. Legend has it that the wood was taken from an old cannon mount brought to Canada from England by General James Wolfe in 1758. The Brown family accepted quarters on Fort Benning in 1958. The old hospital with its covered sidewalks was remodeled to become family quarters. It was clean and decent and a great improvement over living in town. In 1959 Coats and his family returned to the 656<sup>th</sup> Engineer Topographical unit in Schwetzingen, Germany and remained there for four years. General Bruce Clarke was now a 4 star and USAREUR Commander. General Clarke and four Colonels visited the Thompkins Barracks Printing Plant one day. CWO Brown reported to the General who was very interested in marksmanship and had known Coats for several years. Clarke said "Brown how the hell have you been", "Let's sit down and chat for awhile". The Colonels appeared to be gnawing at the bit, bored and wanting to leave, but the old man wanted to chat. General Clarke had been C.O. of Combat Command B, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, part of Patton's Third Army. Abrams had been C.O. of Combat Command A. After the visitors left, Coats told his German foreman that General Clarke had been a part of Patton's force. As with most Germans, the foreman had great respect for Patton and Third Army. A Standby Map Reproduction Site was located at Bordeaux, France. CWO Brown was required to visit the Bordeaux site twice a year to inspect and report on the sites readiness. In

August of 1962, all five members of the Brown family spent a week's vacation in Paris. They stayed in a hotel near the Arch of Triumph, enjoyed the continental breakfasts with the European style coffee, and visited many beautiful and historic places. Son Victor was attending college in the states and would return to his family during the summer months most years.

Coats Brown returned to USAMU and Fort Benning in 1964. He served in an administrative role during the final summer of training at Fort Niagara. His left eye still gave him some problems. His vision was reduced and he lived with some pain. An Entomologist at Fort Benning advised Coats, "Don't let anyone work on your left eye, except the people at Emory University Hospital".

Coats remember shooting in competitions at sixteen ranges and coaching at several others. He competed in matches at Brownwood, TX; Camp Curtis Guild, MA; Camp Matthews, CA; Camp Perry, OH; Camp Smith, NY; Cape May, NJ; Claremore, OK; Fort Benning, GA; Fort Campbell, KY; Fort Dix, NJ; Fort Hood, TX; Fort McClellan, AL; Frankfort, IN; Quantico, VA; Tampa, FL and Tybee Island, GA.

In 1964 Coats was able to pin second lieutenant bars on his son Victor following his graduation from North Georgia College and commission as an infantry officer in the Army. Victor went on to retire from the Army as a Military Intelligence officer with a rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

In 1965 CWO Coats Brown retired from the Army with 31 years and 4 months of service. Coats flair for art, illustrating and map making eventually led him to calligraphy. He created beautiful calligraphy on a nearly daily basis for several years. He and Ray Calvez attended the National Calligraphy Association annual conventions several times. They attended the conventions in Chicago in 1997, Atlanta in 1998 and Rochester, New York in July of 1999. Coats taught some penmanship classes at the convention in Rochester. He also belonged to some foreign calligraphy associations. In 1999 or 2000, Coats developed a tremor in his drawing arm that affected his artwork. He gave most of his calligraphy and art tools to close friends and artists. Coats kept his childhood F.W. Tamblins Home Instructor in Penmanship texts. They were well worn but in excellent condition.

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## COMMANDER / From Page 2

we will host a Jane Wayne event where our spouses (wives and husbands) as well as our children can come out for a couple of hours of competition and fun. I hope that some of you can join us for this and for our next USAMU organization day.

**GOLD** / From Page 1

to shoot for it back home," Holguin explained. "But if one of us can do really well at World Cups this year, he can qualify for one of the two quota spots by points. I just got a pretty good score today, I believe, so this has been a very good first step."

Holguin is scheduled to compete in the next two ISSF Shotgun World Cups in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, and Larnaca, Cyprus.

Haldeman in his first World Cup final met and beat Kuwait's 2000 Double Trap Olympic bronze medalist and 2012 Trap Olympic Silver medalist Fehaid Aldeehani in the bronze medal match. The two medal contenders ended up tied with 28 hits each at the end of the round, and it was once again a shoot-off, leading to Haldeman's victory with 12 to 11 hits.

The 2008 Olympic Gold Medalist SSG Glenn Eller, Team USA's third semi-finalist, finished in sixth place with 25 hits, while Great Britain's first-time finalist Matthew French closed the semi-final in fifth with 26 hits.

**PRESIDENT** / From Page 2

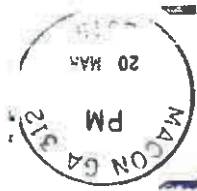
- author of program of instruction for the Marksmanship Master Trainer Course.
- Sergeant First Class Green, National Service Rifle Champion.
- Specialist Armstrong, top gunsmith, rebarreled all M24 sniper rifles for the All Army competition.

2015 promises to be another great year for the MMA. The Executive Board will continue to do their best to serve our membership and support the missions of the USAMU. The unit's training and competition season is already well underway, with the 2015 All Army Small Arms Championships in the books, a couple of Master Marksmanship Trainer Courses completed, and the ISSF World Cup in Acapulco, Mexico underway as I write this. Follow the news on the current USAMU Soldiers on the [USAMU Facebook page](http://www.usaac.army.mil/amu/) or at their website, <http://www.usaac.army.mil/amu/>. All ready on the firing line.



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