



# MMA TIMES

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## USAMU Celebrates 54th Anniversary

USAMU PAO



### 2010 HOF -

LTC Dan Hodne (Left) stands with USAMU Hall of Fame inductees Laurence K. "Red" Mosely, Boyd Goldsby, and W.O. Harden and guest speaker CSM (Ret) Tom Fuller.

FORT BENNING, Ga. —More than 300 Soldiers, civilians and Family members, past and present, of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit gathered together to celebrate the USAMU's 54th birthday Oct. 14-16.

The Military Marksmanship Association, the alumni association of the USAMU, hosted the reunion to afford past members of the unique unit time to reminisce with fellow former shooters and gunsmiths, as well as meet the current USAMU Soldiers and personnel.

The USAMU is the only unit of its kind in the Army. Home to 23 Olympic medalists, more than 40 World Champions, and the most competent gunsmiths in the world, the USAMU enhances the Army's recruiting effort, raises the standard of the Army's marksmanship proficiency, and supports the Army's small arms research and development initiatives in order to raise the Army's overall combat readiness.

USAMU commander Lt. Col. Daniel Hodne presided over the 2010 Hall of Fame induction ceremony Oct. 16. Sgt. Maj (Ret.) Thomas Fuller was the guest speaker and presented the new inductees with their medals and plaques. Inducted were: Lt. Col. (Ret.) Boyd Goldsby; Master Sgt. (Ret.) William O. Harden; and Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Laurence "Red" Mosely.

"What is truly unique about the USAMU Hall-of-Fame distinction is it is an award given by the voting of every member of the MMA," Fuller remarked. "Every man and woman in this unit is one of the best shooters on the planet. Their toughest competition is from the other Soldiers in the unit. So when these men and women select among themselves those to honor, you better believe that they are deserving of it."

The three newly-elected members collectively served more than 120 years in the Army as Soldiers and civilians, and represent 85 years of service to the USAMU, Fuller said.

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## USAMU Commander's Report

LTC Dan Hodne



I am grateful for all of the support to our Unit members from a tremendous combination of families, friends, and the MMA. Thank you! I am also grateful for the time that I was able to spend with many of you during our recent USAMU/MMA 54th Reunion weekend.

Congratulations to our members of the 2010 Class of the USAMU Hall of Fame. LTC(Ret) Boyd Goldsby, SGM(Ret) Laurence "Red" Mosely, and MSG(Ret) W.O. Harden have joined a unique and distinguished group of US Army service members – the chosen ones who are enshrined in this distinctive Unit's Hall of Fame. Their Hall of Fame plaques join the others in the prominent location of the USAMU headquarters entranceway. The Unit thanks SGM(Ret) Tom Fuller, former USAMU SGM, for presiding over this prestigious ceremony and presenting remarks as the Guest Speaker.

As I mentioned during my opening remarks during the Reunion weekend and as a continuation from the accomplishments reported in the September edition of the *MMA Times*, I am extremely proud to report that **2010 ranked as the USAMU's most accomplished year across all aspects of its wide-ranging mission in the past thirty years!** Since my last report, our successes for 2010 continue to mount as our Soldiers carry on our tradition of excellence:

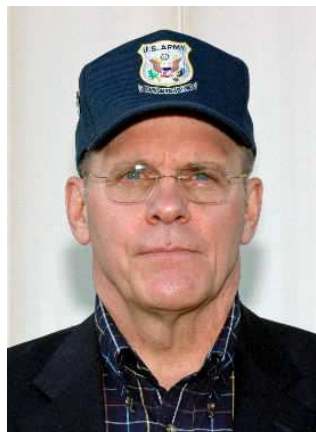
SGT Sherri Gallagher (Service Rifle) earned the prestigious title and lifetime achievement of ARMY SOLDIER OF THE YEAR! She is the **very first female Soldier** to win the Army's Best Warrior Competition and claim this esteemed status.

CPL Matt Rawlings and SGT Joe Hein (both International Rifle) earned Olympic Country Quota slots for the 2012 Olympics with Gold medal performances during the Championship of the America's Games in Brazil.

SSG Richmond was named as USA Shooting's Overall Men's Athlete of the Year and Men's Shotgun Athlete of the Year!

## MMA President's Report

Bob Hoidahl



Hopefully, you all had a great "Turkey Day" and are looking forward to the holiday season. On behalf of the entire MMA Executive Board, we wish you a joyous holiday season and a great start to the New Year.

### USAMU/MMA Reunion

**2010:** Holy Cow! It was great to see many of our members at the 54th Bi-annual reunion.

We hit our magic planning figure of 275-300 participants and witnessed another great weekend of activities: starting with Team dinners on Thursday; range firing, general membership meeting, welcome picnic on Friday; and the USAMU Hall of Fame induction ceremony, shotgun shooting demo, followed by the USAMU/MMA Reunion barbeque. If you were unable to attend, a great time was had by all. AMU soldiers/civilians provided great support and the chow provided by Huckleberry's was simply outstanding. I know the price was right for our members, not one dime! Mark your calendars now for the 56<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2012!

### MMA Executive Board Elections for 2011-2013:

At the recent reunion we conducted our annual general membership meeting and elected new officers. Former International Rifle shooter retired LTC Rob Harbison was elected as our new President. Service Pistol Coach retired MAJ Rick Hawkins accepted the Vice President position. Red Mosely and Sam Hunter will stay on for another term as the Secretary and Treasurer, respectively. Dick Rebidue will remain in the Membership chair for the time being and Carter Berry will remain in Public Affairs. We are also looking for additional help to assist LTC (Ret) Phil Cannella, our superb refreshments coordinator. Several new personnel were presented to the membership as new committee chairpersons and committee members: SFC (Ret) Steve Young, Custom Firearms Shop Chief, as the Historian and Service Rifle Shooter/1995 MMA Soldier of the Year SFC (Ret) Kevin McMahon as Assistant Membership Chairperson. On behalf of the entire MMA membership, I would like to thank ALL that came forward to serve our organization. I will stay on as the "Immediate Past President" for another two years.

## Coats Brown, A Legacy

Ken Hamill

*This series is about the life and times of a shooting legend who became the first Service Rifle Head Coach of USAMU in 1956. If you shot or worked with Coats Brown, please send any memories you have of those times to the Editor so the membership can share or relive them.*

Away shooting matches were no more than a one day drive. On the longer trips, they left at first light. Regiment pre-arranged each trip. Perhaps 15-20 visiting shooters would be hosted and scattered among several unit barracks. Shooters ate in the messhall of the unit where they stayed. Perhaps 40 shooters participated in the match. These matches were NRA sponsored and included a NRA Referee. Entry fees were paid by the home Regiment. The matches were totally supported with target pulling pit crews and all range personnel provided. The uniform for the pit crew was blue fatigues. Range personnel working the firing line as range officers and such wore the khaki uniform with lace trousers and leggings. Visiting shooters signed out of their home orderly room and into the host unit's headquarters upon their arrival and vice versa for the return trip. They traveled in an Army vehicle to several places including a Marine range in Tampa, Florida; Parris Island, SC; Fort Screven, Georgia; and to the Infantry Center at Fort Benning. Fort Screven was located on Tybee Island, just off the Georgia coast at Savannah and was home to Regimental Headquarters and two battalions of the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry. A causeway led to the Island. Colonel George C. Marshall commanded the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry and resided in quarters on Tybee Island. Coats Brown met George C. Marshall while competing in a match on the Island. Shooters representing the 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry, 22<sup>nd</sup> Infantry and Parris Island Marines competed in the match. The 4 man Fort McClellan team would be reimbursed for their food and gas expenses. They were paid in cash at the Post Finance Office.

As time drew near for Coats to depart for Fort Benning and the Infantry Team, he performed an annual and familiar ritual. He looked up all of his old friends at Fort McClellan and said "goodbye, I'll see you in the Fall". He saw just about everyone in K Company and Headquarters Company and a few others scattered around Post. He then inventoried and documented every item of clothing and equipment that he would not be taking with him to the team, packed these items in a foot locker and turned

the whole caboodle into the company supply room for safe keeping. Supply personnel compared the inventory list to the contents of the foot locker and verified that it was correct by signing the inventory form.

1940 was also a very good year. Coats was again a member of the Infantry Rifle Team. The team assembled at Fort Benning and shot on Fiske Range for 6 or 7 weeks. They then traveled to Ohio and lived on Erie Ordnance Depot and shot on Camp Perry well into September. This area now had magical qualities for Coats Brown. He had learned so much from outstanding people and had been very successful at Camp Perry. He was again selected to make the team trip to Camp Curtis Guild. Coats rode with Major Maertens in his POV, along with Lieutenant Throckmorton and a fourth man. They stopped by USMA enroute to visit Major Maertens son George who was a Plebe. The upperclassmen of George's company were determined to chase one stubborn Plebe out of the Corps which had a severe impact on all of the Plebes. Major Maertens felt that George needed a lift and visiting him might do the trick. George later graduated with the class of January 1943. Major Maertens son Thomas B. graduated from West Point with the class of 1945 and his grandson Thomas B. Maertens, Jr. graduated with the class of 1970. All three of the Maertens boys shot on the Corps Squad Rifle Team while they were cadets.

## WELCOME!

### NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Steven S. Wolszczak - Robert E. Harbison  
Boyd D. Goldsby - Arthur G. Klein  
Laurence K. Mosely

### NEW MMA MEMBERS

Patrick W. Franks, Jr. - James D. Beesly  
Grant B. Kennedy - Seth M. Berglee  
Greg A. Markowski - Tyler E. Payne  
Cody E. Smith - Lawrence A. Cleveland  
Dustin W. Brede - Evan S. Dundas  
Dennis J. Lord - Jesse J. Musser  
James W. Guynn

## TAPS, PRESENT ARMS

**SFC Walter W. Barringer**, 66, of Fort Mitchell, Alabama, passed away Saturday, November 13, 2010 at the Columbus Regional Medical Center.

Walter served two tours in the USAMU Custom Gun Shop with a tour to Vietnam in-between. His first tour was as a machinist and during his second tour; he served both as a machinist and as the shop NCOIC.

Upon retirement from the Army, he started his own business, *Walt's Small Engine Repair*.

**SFC Kenneth C. "Kenny" Evans**, a Service Rifle shooter, of Otisco, Indiana, died October 25, 2010.

"Kenny" joined the USAMU in May of 1955 and was awarded the U. S. Army Distinguished Rifleman Badge in 1957.

He was a member of the record setting Infantry Trophy Team at Camp Perry, Ohio in 1958 and 1959. He became a member of the Presidents Hundred in 1959. In 1960 he was assigned the USAREUR Marksmanship Unit as an Infantry Trophy coach, where he led his team to a win in the All Army Team Match in 1960 and 1961. In 1961, he tested rifles and ammunition used for the 1964 Olympics. In 1966 he had direct assignment to the University of Alaska at the Rifle Team Coach. His team won the 1966 National ROTC Championship in 1967 and 1968, the National Woman's Championship and several All American matches. In 1968 he served in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. He was assigned as non-commissioned officer-in-charge of the International Rifle Team in 1969. He went on to become a recruiter in 1971 and was assigned to Louisville, Kentucky before retiring from the Army in 1973.

After a distinguished career in the Army, he worked for E. I. Dupont for 22 and a-half years and then retired to his farm in southern Indiana. He continued his education and attended Purdue University to become a certified Master Gardener and became very well known for raising top quality Hostas as well as for his arts and crafts.

**SFC John R. Sicinski**, a Service Pistol Shooter, was born February 7, 1931 in Poland and died in Columbus, Georgia on November 21, 2010. John was cremated and his ashes will be returned to his native Poland.

John escaped from post WWII Communist Poland in February 1950 to West Germany where he worked for the British Army then for the U.S. Army in Germany and France. In 1955, he enlisted at Heidelberg, Germany in the U.S. Army under the Lodge Act and completed his basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey.

His assignments include the 1st Cavalry Division, Korea; 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas; 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Benning, Georgia; 8th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado and Germany; and the USAREUR and USAMU Marksmanship Units.

In 1967, John was assigned to Aero Rifle Platoon, D Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas and reassigned in 1969 to Vietnam for duty with Flight Operations, Hq Troop and later to C Troop, 2nd Squadron, 17th Cavalry, 101st Airborne Division.

John returned from Vietnam to Fort Benning in 1970 for assignment with the USAMU Pistol Team. In 1973, he was a member of the record setting Army "Blue" Team at the National Matches, Camp Perry, Ohio. He was reassigned to Army Flight Operation in Heidelberg, Germany in 1976 and retired from the Army in 1979 with 24 years of honorable service.

His awards include the Bronze Star Medal w/OLC, Air Medal, Good Conduct Medal w/6th Award, Army Commendation Medal, National Defense Medal, Vietnam Service Medal w/Silver Star, Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry w/Palm, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Occupation Medal (Germany), Expert Infantry Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, President's Hundred Tab, and was awarded the U.S. Army Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge in 1960.

After retirement, John attended technical school under the GI Bill and was employed by TRW as a toolmaker. Later, he was employed by Pratt & Whitney, a manufacturer of aircraft jet engines, as a tool and die maker.

## Champion on Target

### USAMU Soldier Named Army Soldier of Year

USAMU PAO

WASHINGTON — A Soldier with 21 national rifle shooting records added one more trophy to the case recently: the U.S. Army's Soldier of the Year.

Sgt. Sherri Gallagher's young life has been one of high achievement. Now the 26-year old rifle shooter/instructor for the Army Marksmanship Unit is the first female to win the Army's Best Warrior competition.

"This is such an honor — I don't think it has sunk in yet," Gallagher said moments after the announcement in Wsashinton. "Any one of us could have won the competition. I learned so much from everybody out here and loved every minute of this experience."

Named the winner by Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth Preston at the Association of the U.S. Army awards luncheon, the three-year veteran bested 11 other Soldiers representing the Army's major commands during the competition Oct. 18-22 at Fort Lee, Va.

"The reason I was successful is the training my sponsor, Sgt. 1st Class David Steinbach, developed for me," said Gallagher, a native of Prescott, Ariz. "He pushed me so hard that I was ready for everything during the competition. Nothing came as a shock and my confidence was really high. I wish that I could share this with him because it truly was a team effort."

Her preparation was tested at every level during the week at Fort Lee. Following a board led by SMA Preston Oct. 18, competitors were tested on their knowledge in a written exam and essay. Three days of field exercises Oct. 20-22 was next. The candidates conducted urban orienteering Wednesday and each led a squad through simulated battle operations that included engaging insurgents, tending wounded Soldiers on the battlefield, and a stress shoot while moving under enemy fire the next two days.

Steinbach said it wasn't difficult preparing Gallagher. A Soldier that soaks up training like a sponge, he said, is extremely motivating.

"She's pretty easy to train. For every bit you put into it, she will give you that much back and more," Steinbach said. "I tell people that training her was as easy as using a claymore mine; just pull a trigger and she'll do all of the work."

Work was the order of the day for Gallagher at Fort Lee during Best Warrior. Though small in stature, she demonstrated the drive and determination it takes to be a U.S. national rifle champion.

"The amount of preparation they put into every lane was amazing," she said of the experience. "Every event was so professional, above and beyond what I was expecting."



**COMMANDER** / From Page 2 \_\_\_\_\_

SFC Szarenski received the honor of being named USA Shooting's Men's Pistol Athlete of the Year!

In addition to showcasing our Army, our training program for warfighters preparing to deploy to combat continues in earnest, our first of our new hires of Wounded Veterans for our newly-formed Paralympic Section has reported in, and our Unit continued its nearly half-century tradition of providing the Army with its precision long-range small arms as the Army adopted the USAMU-developed and tested M2010 Sniper Weapon System (M24 upgrade to .300 WINMAG). Our deployed Team 10-4 continues to make a profound, positive impact on the marksmanship training mission in Afghanistan (Of note, *INFANTRY* Magazine's September-October 2010 edition featured our efforts in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM). Our fifth team (Team 11-1) will deploy shortly after the New Year. I am extremely proud of our Soldiers, NCOs, Civilians, and Family Members who commit themselves to supporting this Unit and our Army.

*I believe that the Unit is on glide path to experience another unprecedented year in 2011.*

We continue to look forward in an effort to always make the Unit even better and raise our Army's overall combat readiness. ARMY STRONG!

**USAMU** / From Page 1 \_\_\_\_\_

"I am so lucky to have served with this great unit for most of my military and civilian career," said Mosely. "I have been awed by (past Soldiers') performance and am still awed by what I see from the new shooters and young shooters."

The Hall-of-Fame ceremony was the highlight of the weekend, but other fun and festivities were had by all. Former team members got acquainted with Soldiers currently serving in the unit at team dinners on Thursday. It wouldn't be the USAMU without some good old fashioned competition, so a round-robin rifle, pistol and shotgun match was held during the day Friday.

Staff Sgt. Armando Ayala, a current member of the service rifle team, was elected to the Running Target team Hall-of-Fame for his years as a member of the now-defunct Olympic-sport team.

"The lineage of greatness this unit has produced is a testament to everyone here," Fuller concluded. "That is a privilege of belonging to something greater than yourself."

**PRESIDENT** / From Page 2 \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to thank our outgoing Vice President, Ron Martere; Steve Goff, our outgoing Historian; and Bruce Meredith, our outgoing Immediate Past President for their superb service to our organization. We appreciate your dedication and service to our membership. From the bottom of my heart...HOOAH! The Executive Board is the "glue" that keeps our organization together. Thanks to all.

**USAMU Hall of Fame:** Congratulations to HOF Class of 2010: LTC (Ret) Boyd Goldsby; SGM (Ret) Laurence K. "Red" Mosely; and MSG (Ret) William O. Harden. All these soldiers are very deserving of this prestigious honor. See complete article on the front page.

**USAMU Soldier of the Year and MMA Annual Membership Meeting, 4 FEB 2011, 1500 hours:** Mark your calendars for this event located at the Pool Indoor Range. Again we will determine the 2010 MMA Soldier of the year and induct our new officers into their respective positions.

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorative Book:** Good news, you can still purchase a copy of this historical overview of USAMU. You can purchase the book for \$50 directly from the USAMU Store if you are in the Fort Benning area. If you live elsewhere, there is a link on our MMA website with ordering instructions and a printable order form; fill in the form, include a check, and send it to the address on the form. The cost per book is \$50 plus shipping.

**MMA Life Membership:** It's never too late to commit to a Life Membership. See our newest Life members in this newsletter. Hooah-way to go!

**MMA Member and Life Member Pins:** After a change in vendors, we now have MMA Member and Life Member pins that are acceptable. Distribution and additional purchases of pins will be disseminated when finalized.

**Farewell:** It has been a privilege serving as your president for the last 4 years. Time flies when you are having so much fun! I'm really not going very far, remaining as the "Immediate Past President" for another 2 years. I too, am grateful for the opportunity to serve. Rob Harbison, I look forward to assisting you and our organization whenever you need me. Hooah!

**MMA Annual Meeting**  
February 4, 2011 3 PM  
Pool Indoor Range, Fort Benning

SOY / From Page 2

One event Gallagher was expected to ace, of course, was M4 rifle qualification.

"It was faster-paced, quick, reactive shooting, but all shooting's the same," she said, "Keep your sights aligned and you're good.

"I'm always more comfortable with a gun in my hand."

Gallagher's quest began after being named the U.S. Army Accessions Command Soldier of the Year in May at Fort Knox. Ky. In July, she won the Training and Doctrine Command Best Warrior competition at Fort Lee, sending her to the Army event.

In between preparing for numerous boards and Soldier competitions, Gallagher became the first U.S. military shooter since 1987 to win the National High-Power Rifle Championship in August. She was only the second woman ever to win, following in her mother Nancy Tomkins' footsteps.

Gallagher's family is legendary in U.S. shooting competition.

"My family is always there for me — we are really close," Gallagher said. "Being named Best Warrior was that much more special since my mom was there sitting next to me today. I am who I am today because of my family. We have so much fun and live life that way."

Being assigned to the AMU was another benefit to her path to Army Soldier of the Year, she said. With a little

more than 100 Soldiers assigned to it, it represents teamwork and success. This year alone the unit has produced multiple national and world champions who are also U.S. Olympians. Army Soldier of the Year becomes a unique accomplishment in a unit known for high achieve

"My Army family is awesome," Gallagher said. "My teammates on the service rifle team have always had my back. The entire unit went out of its way to support me in any way they could. Even the leadership at Accessions Support Brigade and Accessions Command would call me and offer help. The whole experience was just fantastic."

As a unit that falls under USAAC, Gallagher is used to representing the Army all over the nation. One of the marksmanship units' main missions is promoting Army service and connecting America's Army to the American public.

"She connects with people in a way that's immediate," said Lt. Col. Daniel Hodne, AMU commander. "Sgt. Gallagher possesses a unique combination of skill sets and character traits. She easily stands out because she is truly 'one of a kind' and we simply knew that she had the potential to earn the prestigious title of Army Soldier of the Year."

This week begins a year of Gallagher representing the Army as its best enlisted Soldier. Next week, however, it's back to training: Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga., before attending Warrior Leaders Course soon after that.

"How great is the Army?" she asked. "I just got to spend a week with some of the most talented people this Army has to offer, and in a few weeks I get to jump out of an airplane. Nothing is better than being a Soldier."

