



MMA TIMES

**Military Marksmanship Association,
Inc.**

P.O. Box 52025, Fort Benning, Georgia 31995-2025
www.militarymarksmanship.org

The Military Marksmanship Association is a Private, Not-for-profit Association and is not affiliated with or funded by the Department of the Defense or the Department of the Army.

MMA Membership

We would like to recognize and thank the former MMA board members:

Robert Hoidahl Jr. | Immediate Past President
Robert E. Harbison | President
Nicole Brede | Vice President
Kyle Ward | Treasurer
Charles E. Coffey | Secretary
Steven C. Young | Refreshment Coordination
Grant Kennedy | Membership Committee Chairman
Sandra Uptagrafft | Information Technology Officer



We would like to let everyone know about our new MMA board members:

Robert E. Harbison | Immediate Past President
Emil Praslick | President
Nicole Brede | Vice President
Janet Sokolowski | Incoming Secretary

From the Commander of the USAMU:

MMA MEMBERS:
BLUF; An opportunity to continue the fight.



USAMU's primary mission is to WIN every competition it enters, and the Army's primary mission is to WIN

everything we do.

You all have done that in your careers with gusto. Winning gives us the credibility so various agencies seek out our assistance in many areas; The Firearms Shop is heavy into Research and Development; The Instructor Training Group's OPTEMPO for instruction is extremely high; Shooting clinics at all levels; Our Soldiers are in high demand to assist the Army Recruiting effort every time they go to a competition. With the thought that "Every Soldier Is a Recruiter" USAMU has taken that motto very seriously. From high schools discussions regarding goal setting and telling their individual Army story, to speaking at community dinners, to trading shooting tips during matches, our Soldiers capitalize on every opportunity to mold our future generation.

We are seeking assistance from our alumni to aid in this recruiting effort; proven shooters assisting today's recruiters.

If you know of anyone that you feel would be a good Soldier, please speak to them; your words have gravity and are anchored in success. There are numerous MOS's that fit almost everyone's talents and goals. If you have someone that you feel would be an asset to the Nation's fighting force, please contact SFC Matthew Powell at: matthew.a.powell4.mil@mail.mil or you can reach him in the

Lyman Grover | Incoming Treasurer
Shawn Waller | Incoming Refreshment
Coordination
Ken Johnson | Incoming Membership Committee
Chairman
Sandra Uptagrafft | Information Technology
Officer

**New Membership:
16 new members, all are annual
members**

Adams, William
Baker, Michael
Cleveland, Jacob
Cornacchione, John
Gill, Kenneth
Gittus, Bradley
Kaneshiro, Kurt
Lawrence, Harris
Martin, Stanley
McDuffie, Kenneth
Mehle, Charles
Moxham, Robert
Pallotta, Anne
Thompson, Colin

USAMU HQ at 706 545-6677. That would be of great assistance not only to assisting recruiters in the field, but will place another good person in our Army.

USAMU has also supported a program called HOMETOWN HEROS. Those are USAMU Soldiers that from time-to-time during their assignment to the unit are sent to their high school, college, Boy Scout Troop, etc to speak with individuals and groups that they have known in the recent past.

We would like you to consider leveraging SFC Powell to link you up with local recruiters; as such YOU will be able to assist at local fairs, ball games, school displays, etc and tell YOUR Army Story.

The public needs to connect with Americas Army in a more realistic manner, and you can help us. Not just a canned presentation, but real world experience.

Give them an opportunity to decide for themselves if being a Soldier for one enlistment or a career is something they should consider.

Your assistance will contribute to the manning of the future force.

Regards,
LTC Trey Lawrence, Commander USAMU

MMA Merchandise for Sale at Ranges during Matches:

After many people requested we had the "vintage" Service Rifle Navy Blue Shooting sweatshirt, brown t-shirt produced for sale. We will be selling the Service Rifle Navy Blue Sweatshirt and the Brown T-shirt along with the regular MMA

t-shirts at Camp Perry. The black hats Mr. Rob Harbison had been selling are sold out, however we still have the grey hats available. Once they are depleted we will order more. I will present t-shirt ideas to the board for consideration, for instance one idea was having the distinguished pistol/rifle medals on a t-shirt, the cammo USAMU hat, and more long sleeve t-shirts for the winter.

If you would like to see certain merchandise please inform us at janet.sokolowski.ctr@mail.mil. As a private organization on Fort Benning, GA the MMA is only allowed to sell 8 days of the calendar year. With this in mind, we have to use these valuable days to sell merchandise at the biggest matches of the year. Usually, the 3 - Gun Challenge, All Army, and Jr Air Rifle/Pistol Championships will be the matches with the most draw, remember it is not 8 events it is only 8 days available IAW MWR, so please come out and support the MMA but also the Soldiers, civilians, and juniors shooting at hosted USAMU events.



TAPS, PRESENT ARMS

It is with sad hearts that we inform you of the passing of:

Marvin Aldrich
Albert Coots
Terry Daugherty
Allan M. Ewing
Daniel Puckel
Travis "Buddy" Strahan
James G. Wilford
Ernest J. Vande Zande

The 2018 MMA Reunion



Donations:

Thank you to all that have supported the Military Marksmanship Association! A special 'Thank You' to the following organizations, companies, and people:

USAMU a donation of ~\$4,000 and Home of Champions merchandise.

COL (Retired) Robert Hoidahl a donation of \$100.



The Over the Hill Gang a donation of \$1113.60.

A new donated Trophy for Civilian Marksmanship Program Pistol National Championships, the Aubrey E. II Smith Memorial Trophy that was made with the donation money given to the MMA from the Over the Hill Gang. It will be debuted at the 2019 CMP National Pistol Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio July14 2019.

USAMU's 2018 in Review

(March 2018-December 2018)

By Michelle Lunato, USAMU Public Affairs Chief

More than 250 of the top 3-gun competitors from across the Nation recently traveled to the U.S.

Army Marksmanship Unit's (USAMU) ranges for the annual Fort Benning Multigun Challenge. This fast-paced, action shooting style match not only gave competitors an opportunity to go head-to-head in a technically challenging match on a historic Army base, but it also gave them a chance to meet a number of the USAMU's national and international competitors on their own training grounds.

Co-hosting the Multigun Challenge with the Fort Benning Morale, Welfare and Recreation office is just one way the USAMU has been able to give back to the shooting sports community. It is also pretty symbolic of the fast-paced, aggressive competition schedule they have had this year.

Just take a look at this USAMU year-in-review summary to decide for yourself though.

Action Shooting

The Action Shooting Team put their year in full gear as they took to Las Vegas,



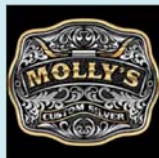


Thank You to SIG Sauer and Armageddon Gear for Donations to the MMA September 2018 Reunion.



The Shooter of the Year 2018 Donations came from our President's efforts to support USAMU Soldiers, the following companies donated items:

SIG Sauer, Capstone Precision Group, McMillan, & Vortex Optics. Thank you!



The Shooter of the Year 2018 Awards Belt Buckles were produced by Molly's Custom Silver who gave the MMA a great discount.

Sergeant Herschel Anderson: Induction to the Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame



A native of Tracy City, Tennessee, Sgt. Anderson has been called "the best pistol-shooter that we ever had in the U.S." He currently holds eleven individual national pistol-shooting records and shares in another ten team

Nevada in April to compete in the 2018 U.S. Practical Shooting Association's (USPSA) Multigun Nationals. In his first year as a Soldier, USAMU's then-PV2 Nathan Staskiewicz seized the Limited Division Champion title. Before joining the Army, the Omaha, Nebraska native trained and competed as a civilian in the Tactical Optics Division. However, the USAMU already had a Tactical Optics Division competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Horner from Suffolk, Virginia. So Staskiewicz's move to Limited Division was not only necessary, but smart, especially since Horner clenched his 10th (and fifth consecutive) title as the USPSA's National Tactical Division Champion.

USAMU teammate Sgt. 1st Class Joel Turner from Anderson, South Carolina, shot his way to the top with a third overall placement against 267 other national competitors and a silver-medal finish in the Open Division. Staff Sgt. Tyler Payne, from Princeton, Minnesota, pulled out another podium placement by taking first place as the Heavy Metal Division Champion.

The wins did not stop there though; the Action Shooting Team continued their domination across the United States. In May at the 3-Gun Nation South Regionals, Horner, Turner and Staskiewicz swept the podium in the Production, Practical and Unlimited Divisions, respectively. Meanwhile, Payne snatched up the Open Division Champion title at both the Carolina Summer PRS Shootout and the Peacemaker Gas Gun Match. These unstoppable Soldiers kept it up and also claimed four division titles in the Wyoming Governor's 3-Gun Match and three of the four at the Rocky Mountain 3-Gun Match.

While this was all going on, the other part of the Action Shooting Team was just a busy. They kicked off their year in April at the USPSA Area 6 Championships with Prescott, Arizona native, Sgt. Jacob Hetherington, winning the Production Division Champion title while teammate, Staff Sgt. John Browning from Jackson, Georgia, captured the Limited Division. This duo kept up momentum of claiming USPSA division titles at the Double Tap Championships, the Mississippi Classic, the Area 3 Championships, the Area 4 Championships and the Area 5 Championships, just to name a few.

records. In 1972, Herschel Anderson was a member of the U.S. Olympic Team. In 1967, 1971, and 1975 he participated in the Pan-American Games, where he won a gold medal competing in Winnipeg, Canada, and a silver medal while in Cali, Columbia. Sgt. Anderson served twenty years in the U.S. Army. From Vietnam, he carried home a Bronze Star Medal with two oak leaf clusters and the Army Commendation Medal. Sgt. Anderson was a member of the U.S. World Championship Shooting Team in 1966 and again in 1974. He won the National Pistol Championship in 1973 and again in 1974; the National Indoor Championship in 1964 and 1974; the National ISU Center Fire Championship in 1975; and in the National Free Pistol Championship six times – 1966, 1971, 1972, 1974, and 1975. Anderson added another gold medal and a silver medal in October of 1976 at the Mexico City games, where he was easily the top performer for any country.



Kansas State University Inducts Murdock:

Margaret Murdock, 1965 graduate of Kansas State University, was inducted into the Athletic Hall of Fame, on September 28, 2018. Nine KSU athletes were inducted at an evening Awards banquet, with the donning of a KSU Purple Hall of Fame Blazer and honored on Saturday, September 29th. at the KSU- Texas Football Game Half-time with the presentation of their plaques.

As a member of the K-State Rifle Team, Murdock became Kansas State's first varsity Letterwoman her sophomore year, followed by varsity letters her junior and senior years. She was twice Big 8 individual Champion and twice led her team to Big 8



Shotgun

As the Action Shooting Team was making their

presence known, the Shotgun Team was no different. Kicking it off early on the world stage was 2nd Lt. Amber English, a Colorado Springs, Colorado, native who is an Army Reserve Soldier assigned to the World Class Athlete Program (WCAP) and attached to the USAMU. English claimed both a Bronze Medal and Silver Medal in Women's Skeet during the International Shooting Sports Federation's (ISSF) World Cups in Changwon, Korea (April) and Mosta, Malta (June), respectively.

In July, the Shotgun Team kept up the pressure by pulling in the wins and high placements. Spc. William Hinton, a Lawrenceville, Georgia native, took the Gold Medal along with his civilian teammate Kayle Browning in the newest Olympic Games' event, the Trap Mixed Team event, during the World Championship Selection in Colorado Springs.

Katy, Texas native and five-time Olympian, Sgt. 1st Class Glenn Eller, claimed the Gold Medal and the Men's Trap Champion title at the USA Shooting (USAS) Summer Selection in August. Teammate Spc. Alexander Rennert, from the Miami Beach, Florida was not far behind Eller and took up the Bronze Medal.

Just a month later, Spc. Christian Elliott from Richmond, Indiana, earned the USAS National Men's Skeet Champion title along with a shiny new Gold Medal. Sgt. Dustan Taylor from Staley, North Carolina, was close on his heels taking up the Silver Medal.

These along with some other notable accomplishments meant that 14 of the 15 Shotgun Team Soldiers had achieved placements on the U.S. National Team.

In October, Eller, along with his civilian teammate, Aerial Skinner, took the Gold in the Mixed Trap Team event at the USAS National Championships.

At the 12th Championship of the Americas (CAT) in Guadalajara, Mexico, English pulled in another Gold Medal in Women's Skeet. Eller took up the Bronze in Men's Trap. And in Men's Skeet, the team of Taylor, Spc. Phillip Jungman of Caldwell, Texas, and civilian Frank Thompson took the team Gold Medal.

Championships. She was on the National Rifle Association's (NRA) First Team All-American her junior and senior years and also the NRA National Women's Collegiate Champion those years.

Margaret won the prestigious "KSU Turkey Shoot" a shoulder-to-shoulder open (men and women) her senior year, in which the best collegiate rifle shooters in the nation participated. She graduated with a B.S. in Chemistry.

Murdock was Commissioned into the Women's Army Corp. She was then assigned to the United States Army's Marksmanship Training Unit at Fort Benning, Georgia and there became a member of their elite Rifle Team. She shot her way onto nearly every USA International Shooting Team, from 1966 through 1976.

She holds four World Individual Championships, nine Team World Championships and 13 World Shooting Records, culminating in an Olympic Silver Medal at the 1976 Games in Montreal Canada.

Ms. Murdock thanked Kansas State University for bestowing this prestigious honor, by saying, "I am to be both proud and humbled to be in this Hall, with all of KSU's great athletes. It was at K-State that I laid the fundamentals of my shooting career and learned to compete with the best collegiate rifle shooters in the Big 8, and the nation. It was the stepping stone that prepared me to try competing on a world level. I thank the KSU ROTC and Athletic Departments for providing the facilities and opportunity for us to participate in this challenging sport. Bestowing this very special honor, in the twilight of my life, is fitting because my shooting career began here and now ends here, having come full circle, back to K-State, where all the magic began!"

[Click here to read the actual article!](#)

Terrell Owens among 21 set for Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame

In his 20-year military career, Anderson was on the All-Army pistol team in 1961 and in



International Rifle

Just like the Shotgun Team, the International Rifle Team demonstrated that the USAMU was a force to be reckoned with on the world-class stage.

At the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) National Champions in July, USAMU Soldiers swept the podium in the Three-Position Rifle Championships. Spc. Tim Sherry from Highlands Ranch, Colorado claimed the CMP National Smallbore Champion title while USAMU teammates, Pfc. Jared Desrosiers, from Swansea, Massachusetts, and Sgt. Patrick Sunderman, from Farmington, Minnesota, followed right behind respectively. At the same competition, Desrosiers won the Iron Sight Open Championship as well as the Open Final Championship. Sunderman seized the Any Sight Open Championship. Then together, Sherry, Sunderman, Desrosiers and Spc. Brandon Muske from Brenham, Texas, snatched up the Open Team Championship title.

In the Prone Championships, 2012 Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Eric Uptagrafft, from Spokane, Washington, took the Open 3200 Aggregate Champion title while Sherry won the overall Open Iron Sight Match. Then, Uptagrafft and Sherry joined up with Sunderman and Muske to claim the Prone Team Championships.

In Chateauroux, France, Corsicana, Texas native, Staff Sgt. John Joss, earned the USAMU and WCAP a Silver Medal in the Mixed 50m Rifle Prone event during the World Shooting Para Sport World Cup. This Soldier's Silver finish was not just another tremendous accomplishment on his already impressive biography, but it was also the first Paralympic quota for the 2020 Paralympic Games in Tokyo, Japan.

Then off in Changwon, Korea, 2016 Olympian Sgt. 1st Class Michael McPhail, who hails from Darlington, Wisconsin, earned the Bronze Medal in the Men's Three-Position Rifle event at the ISSF World Championships. This Bronze Medal was the first World Championship medal in that event for the United States since USAMU's Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Tamas won his Silver back in 1994. And along with that medal, McPhail "earned the United States its first Olympic quota in shooting for the 2020 Olympic

the Army Marksmanship Unit 1961-64, 1967-71 and 1972-76. He was the national indoor pistol champion three times, the national champion twice, the interservice champ 1973-75 and the 1975 winner of the national trophy individual match. He also won two Pan-American Games gold medals and three silvers.

[Click here to read the actual article!](#)



Terrell Owens speaks during his Pro Football Hall of Fame induction ceremony at UTC's McKenzie Arena on Aug. 4, 2018. The former Mocs and NFL wide receiver leads this year's induction class for the Greater Chattanooga Sports Hall of Fame, which will be honored in March.

Photo by [Doug Strickland](#) /Times Free Press.

New Pistol Trophy Donated to CMP for 2019 National Matches

By Ashley Brugnone, CMP Writer

Thanks to the generosity of past marksmen, the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP) has added a new pistol trophy to the National Matches that will recognize the High Army New Shooter during the President's-National Trophy Individual Aggregate – comprised of competitor scores combined from two of the most prestigious competitions conducted at the annual event.

The MSG Aubrey E. Smith II Memorial Trophy was donated by the Military Marksmanship Association, an organization of retired Army marksmen members. The Association also donated a trophy to the

Games in Tokyo, Japan," said USA Shooting officials.

The International Rifle Team then sped off to the CAT Games in Mexico, alongside their USAMU teammates on the Shotgun Team. There, Sgt. 1st Class George Norton, from Salina, Kansas, won an individual Gold Medal and Olympic quota in the Men's Three-Position Rifle event with Sunderman taking up the Silver. Together with their civilian teammate, 2016 Olympian Lucas Kozeniesky, they earned the United States the team Gold Medal as well.

On the women's side, 2nd Lt. Sarah Beard, from Danville, Indiana, seized up a CAT Gold Medal and Olympic quota in Three-Position Rifle for the USAMU, WCAP and USA. Her qualification score didn't just get her into the final to win that medal, but it also set an Americas record with her score of 1176. Along with her civilian teammates, MacKensie Martin and Rachel Garner, the powerhouse trio earned the United States another team Gold Medal, setting yet another CAT record with the combined score of 1836.5.

Beard was not done there though. The USAMU/WCAP Soldier competed and won a number of other medals, both individual and team: Gold in the Women's 50m Prone event, Gold in the Women's Team Air Rifle event, Gold in the Women's Team 50m Prone event and a Bronze in the Air Rifle Mixed Team event.



Service Pistol

While the

International Rifle Team was making big results for the history books, the Service Pistol Team was doing just the same in their lanes of fire.

In May at the National Rifle Association's (NRA) 40th Bianchi Cup, Sgt. 1st Class Adam Sokolowski, who hails from Lewistown, Pennsylvania, beat out 163 other international competitors from eight countries and 33 states with his perfect score of 1920-176x. This Soldier's win not only earned him the titles of 2018 Open Division and Overall Bianchi Cup Champion, but it also made history on a couple of levels. First, his perfect score beat out the reigning eighteen-time Bianchi Cup Champion, Doug Koenig. Second, this Soldier's win made him the first competitor to consecutively win all three divisions—

CMP National Matches Long Range series at last year's event. The MSG Aubrey E. Smith II Memorial Trophy will be a bronze sculpture that will be awarded at the respected Pistol Awards Ceremony, held at the Hough Theater on the grounds of Camp Perry in July.

The CMP is honored to present the trophy to future generations of marksmanship excellence and is grateful to the Military Marksmanship Association for its considerate contribution. To learn more about the Military Marksmanship Association, visit their website at www.militarymarksmanship.org.



About MSG Aubrey Smith:

Aubrey Smith enlisted in the Army on December 5, 1945, at age 15. He served in the Korean War from 1951-1952 and was assigned to the 1st Armored Division in Fort

Hood, Texas, where he began competitive pistol shooting with 4th MED Tank Bn in 1954. That same year, he competed in the All Army Pistol Matches and eventually traveled to the National Matches as a member of the All Army Team. He continued his streak of competing at Camp Perry annually until 1974.

When the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit was activated, MSG Smith was assigned to the unit in September 1957 – one of the first groups of pistol shooters to be assigned to the unit. He began International Pistol Shooting in 1958 and was selected for the U.S. Team for the World Championships held in Moscow.

During his military career, he competed in three World Championships, three Pan American Games and one CISM Championships, where he earned Six Gold and Three Silver medals. He also holds the International Distinguished Badge #18, Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge and Presidents Hundred Medal.

Other assignments and achievements include:

- 1968 Military advisor U.S. Army Vietnam
- 1971 NCOIC and Head Coach, U.S. Army Pistol Team

Production, Metallic and Open—in the entire 40 years of the competition's history.

Demonstrating the USAMU prowess even more, Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Franks from Las Vegas, Nevada, concluded his final Bianchi Cup showing by winning his first Production Division Champion title, adding to his previous Bianchi Cup Metallic Division Champion titles in 2015 and 2016.

Literally days before the Bianchi Cup though, the Service Pistol team competed at the 2018 NRA World Action Pistol Championships. This rare competition hosted over 150 international competitors from as far away as Japan and Australia. Sokolowski placed second in the overall competition while Sgt. 1st Class Lawrence Cleveland, from Tacoma, Washington, took second in the Metallic Division. Franks stepped it up a notch and earned the title of 2018 World Action Pistol Production Division Champion.

The Service Pistol Team kept up their dominance at other competitions too. At the Interservice Pistol Championships, the USAMU swept the podium. Staff Sgt. Greg Marksowski, who is a native of Poland, took the lead as the overall champion while Sgt. Christopher Hudock, from Virginia Beach, Virginia, followed close behind in second. Sokolowski took up the Bronze over the other servicemembers, making the Army fill up the top three individual spots, and the first place overall team spot as well.

At the CMP National Matches, the Service Pistol Team showed their expertise by claiming a number of top match wins. Sokolowski seized up the Excellence in Competition Champion title while Hudock took President's Pistol Trophy. And then, USAMU Team Blue claimed the coveted Gold Cup Trophy over the other top team contenders. But the most individual trophies went to Markowski as he took home the General Mellon Trophy, the General Patton Trophy and the General Custer Trophy.

The wins did not stop there though. The Service Pistol Team snatched up individual and team titles at the NRA New England Regional Pistol Championships when Markowski won the overall match while teammate Staff Sgt. Ryan Franks, a Las Vegas, Nevada, native, came in a close second. At the same match, the USAMU took the team wins in the .22, Centerfire and .45 team matches as well.

Throw in a few more wins at the Bedford Regional Championships, the Show Me Cup and the Tennessee State Championships and the Service Pistol Team clearly had a full calendar of success.

- 1972 1st SGT 60th Avn, CO., U.S. Army Vietnam
- 1973 and 1974, NCOIC
- Head Coach, U.S. Army Pistol Team
- Bronze Star w/ OLC
- Commendation Medal w/OLC
- Combat Infantryman Badge
- Korean Service Medal w/4 stars
- Vietnam Cross of Gallantry w/Bronze Star and Palm
- Vietnam Service Medal w/6 stars
- WWII Victory Medal

About the National Matches:

The annual event, held at the Camp Perry National Guard Training Base since 1907, is a four-week long mix of original CMP matches along with traditional pistol, smallbore, highpower rifle and long range rifle competitions and clinics. Off the firing line, Commercial Row features dozens of vendors suited to an assortment of marksmanship material needs. Whether competing for the first time, a seasoned athlete or simply coming to see what's happening, the National Matches has something for everyone.



The MSG Aubrey E. Smith II Memorial Trophy which will be given to the High "New Shooter" Active Army, National Guard, or Reserve Soldier with the Aggregate of the National Trophy Individual (NTI) Pistol and the Pistol President's Hundred scores. The new Aubrey E. Smith Memorial trophy will be presented by Mr. Aubrey E. Smith III son of MSG Smith, USAMU Hall Of Fame Member Service Pistol Shooter and Team Coach.

Service Rifle

The Service Rifle Team set off on their own path



of success this year as they kicked off their season in April at the CMP Eastern Games by filling up the podium spots with Army stars. Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Green, from Covington, Louisiana, took the overall top honors with teammates Sgt. 1st Class Evan Hess, from Mount Pleasant, Texas, and Sgt. Benjamin Cleland, from Swanton, Ohio, right behind him respectively. In the 4-Man Team Champion Match, USAMU Teams Craig, Peterson and Hess claimed the top three spots as well. That's frankly, just a few of the wins there.

At the NRA National Championships, the Army Soldiers displayed their skills yet again. Green earned the title of 2018 National Match Rifle Champion. USAMU teammate Cleland took the National Service Rifle Champion title and became the new record holder, just because he could. As for the team events, USAMU Craig claimed them all.

Moving over to Quantico, the Service Rifle team showed up determined to maintain the USAMU's reputation at the 57th Interservice Rifle Championships, a competition where Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard go head to head in both individual and team matches. All the training paid off and the Service Rifle Team Soldiers had tremendous success by winning first place in all five team matches and 11 of 12 individual matches.

Success at the Interservice Rifle Championships did not mean the team could rest just yet though. They still had the CMP National Matches at Camp Perry to complete. The aggressive schedule did not slow them down. In fact, it seems to have fueled an unstoppable momentum.

Sgt. Lane Ichord of Waterford, California claimed the individual Service Rifle Champion title while Sgt. 1st Class Shane Barnhart of Ashley, Ohio, seized the individual Match Rifle Champion title.

In the long-range team matches, teams USAMU Green and Craig won both the Match and Service Rifle Team Championships respectively.

The USAMU Craig Team went on to not only claim the coveted CMP National Trophy Team Championship Match, but to break the 2006 record

of 2958-113x, which was set by Marine Corps Arrieta, with their score of 2968-141x.

If all this wasn't exciting enough, Green pulled out a phenomenal Camp Perry performance. On top of winning both the individual Mountain Man and National Trophy matches, Green claimed the prestigious CMP President's 100 Champion title. Green didn't just win the match though, he set a new national record with his perfect score of 400-20x.



Instructor Training Team

While all the competition teams were out winning medals, the USAMU Instructor

Training Team turned all that expertise around by offering service members and civilians across Department of Defense marksmanship training. More than 1000 personnel received one-on-one training from the unique mobile training team. The training occurred on USAMU ranges, but also across the United States. The combat-experienced team traveled to meet units from Germany to Colorado to New Jersey. They covered everything from basic marksmanship fundamentals to more in-depth details needed for long ranges and complicated engagements.

With all that happening over the course of the competition season, it's surprising to find out that the USAMU Soldiers found time for other things. Yet, somehow they did. In between all the training, traveling and competing, the Home of Champions managed to host their annual key events: the National Junior Air Rifle Championships, the Interservice Pistol Championships, the U.S. Army Small Arms Championships and the recent Fort Benning Multigun Challenge. These competitions bring hundreds of civilians, veterans and current service members to Fort Benning and gives the USAMU Soldiers a chance to give back.

Outside of hosting those competitions though, the USAMU Soldiers also traveled to a vast number of trade shows, community events and schools. These trips provided the Soldiers with valuable opportunities to share their Army stories and experiences with the American public. These face-to-face meetings with Soldiers, let hometowns across America get to know their Soldiers and see the expertise of their force.

So as the year comes to a close, the USAMU team is resting up and making plans for the next year. Inevitably, the 2019 schedule will reflect another

action-packed course of fire filled with competitions, training classes, meet-and-greets, and USAMU-hosted events. No matter though, like always the USAMU Soldiers will be ready to engage and continue the legacy of the Home of Champions.

MMA Presents USAMU Shooter of the Year 2018:



The MMA was established in 1994 as a private organization on Ft. Benning, GA. Since our activation the MMA has had the consistent objective to "Support the goals and objectives of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU), provide a link to the history of the USAMU, and to conduct membership meetings, membership reunions and ceremonial events".

Since 1994 the MMA has annually recognized achievement by the Soldiers and civilians of the USAMU. The winner of the "Shooter of the Year" award has stood out from among their peers and is

truly a champion of champions. In addition, the MMA would like to recognize an outstanding "New Shooter of the Year" and an outstanding "Support Team Member of the Year."

Individuals must meet the criteria for Support Team Member of the Year, New Shooter of the Year, and Shooter of the Year to be considered for a nominee:

- Nominees for the outstanding "Support Team Member of the Year" award is the intent to acknowledge outstanding achievement, behind the scenes effort from the support team that puts champions on the podium in competition. This category is open to assigned Soldiers and civilians in non-shooting positions including the Custom Firearms Shop, staff sections, supply room, loading room, to include Team Chiefs and Assistant Team Chiefs.
- Nominees for the outstanding "New Shooter of the Year" acknowledges the performances of newly assigned Soldiers whose accomplishments might otherwise be overshadowed by more senior members of the Shooting Sections. This category is open to Soldiers who have been with the USAMU for less than 2 years. Criteria is job performance, professionalism, and displaying the Army Values.
- Nominees for the overall "Shooter of the Year" award have stood out from among their peers in job performance, professionalism, and displaying the Army values. These Soldiers are the best of the best from their respective teams.

Awards were presented at the USAMU Ball: COL Retired Robert "Bob" Hoihdahl former Military Marksmanship Association President and SFC Nicole Brede current MMA Vice President presented the Awards. It was such a hit with the Soldiers and Leadership of the USAMU they would like to continue this for future USAMU Balls.

MMA Presents Shooter of the Year 2018 Nominees and Results:

This year the nominees were:

Category: **MMA 2018 Overall Shooter of the Year**

Category: **MMA 2018 Support Person of the Year**

2LT Amber English
SFC Brandon Green
SFC Michael McPhail
SSG Brad Balsley
SGT Jacob Hetherington
SGT Christopher Hudock

SSG Conrad White
Mr. Hector Silva

Category: **MMA 2018 New Shooter of the Year**
SPC Jonathan Wannemacher
PFC Emily Stith
PFC Nathan Staskiewicz



And the winners are:

**The MMA 2018 Overall Shooter of the Year:
From the Service Rifle Team, SFC Brandon Green**

The Service Rifle Team nominates Sergeant First Class Brandon Green. SFC Green won the 2018 President's 100 Rifle Match while firing the first ever perfect score 400-20X. The next day, he remained on top for the leader board by winning the National Trophy Individual Rifle Match (NTI) 498-34X. SFC Green remained consistent throughout the National Team Trophy Rifle Match (NTT), firing a 498-33X. SFC Green set a new National Record by winning the Mountain Man Trophy which is awarded to the overall highest scoring individual competitor in an aggregate of the President's Hundred, NTI and NTT with a score of 1,296-83X.

**The MMA 2018 Support Person of the Year:
From the Customs Firearms Shop, SSG Conrad White**

The nominee from the customs Firearms Shop is Staff Sergeant Conrad White. SSG White built and maintained the pistols used by the Action Shooting Team to dominate more than 388 regional and 6 national championships during the 2018 competition season. Additionally, he provided world-class gunsmith support during numerous national level matches ensuring the shooters always had what they needed to win. His performance during the past year has helped to solidify his reputation as one of the most talented gunsmiths to ever work in the Custom Firearms Shop, and his presence will be sorely missed when he leaves the Army Next year.



**The MMA 2018 New Shooter of the Year:
From the Action Shooting Team, PFC Nathan Staskiewicz**

PFC Nathan Staskiewicz joined the Action Shooting Team in December 2017. He has dominated the Limited Division of 3 Gun competitions this last year. He has consistently won 9 out of 10 of the Divisions he has attended. Including winning Heavy Metal Division at the Task Force Dagger Match. He also highlighted his season winning two national matches his first year. Bringing home Multi-Gun Nationals-Limited Division title and TAC Ops Division at the 3 Gun Nationals.

USAMU Infrastructure Improvements:

Well, I've got good news and not so good news. The new USAMU HQ and Shop complex is continuing with the 35% design team finishing their work in late October. We are currently looking over the joint design, making small changes and getting ready for the next step. The not so good news is the entire project is being deferred from FY20 to a later date to-be-determined because of funding. That was a surprise, but not totally unexpected. So... We have given several tours of the current headquarters over the past month to our Brigade Commander and his CSM, the Ft. Benning Commanding General and his CSM, as well as representatives from TRADOC to show the current state of the Headquarters and try to gain their support for the project. All are in agreement that a new facility is desperately needed and needs to be located at the range area, not 2 miles from the ranges. However, money is money. Working the issue as hard as we can, but currently the project is on hold until...



That's the bad news. I try to temper it with some good news. We did receive some facility improvement funds in September 2017 that were dedicated to improving the property and facilities that we currently occupy. There was much work done and I'll highlight some of them; Just last week USAMU signed for a latrine in the Easley Range pits that has "flush toilets". I know the Service Rifle shooters of the past will say this is proof that today's Soldier is not as tough as "back in the day". Well to be honest I got tired of going to the pits in the summer and smelling the aroma. We also received funding for some overhead covers that have been constructed on Krilling and Shelton Ranges to give some cover to the Soldiers as they train on those ranges. I mean, hot is hot; The roofs on Pool Indoor and Pool Outdoor Ranges will be

replaced this winter as well as the lead exhaust system on the indoor range. I'm still working on getting the heating and AC systems updated (can't get parts to the current system) over the next year or so.

If you haven't been to USAMU since you retired, please stop by next time you are in the neighborhood and take a tour of the ranges. We've expanded and I believe you will find your ranges in better shape than any other ranges on Ft. Benning.



The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit | www.militarymarksmanship.org

The Civilian Marksmanship Program | www.thecmp.org

The Military Marksmanship Association, Inc. | P.O. Box 52025, Fort Benning, GA 31995-2025