

Precision SHOOTING

Dealing exclusively with extreme rifle accuracy

September, 2002

Vol. 50

No. 5

\$3.95



The 30th Super Shoot

Wherein: We watch the master win again.

BY DICK WRIGHT
PHOTOS BY ANN HALL

It hardly seems a year has past, yet here we are, home again from another Super Shoot, full of the experience and basking in the glow of a successful shoot. It was a good week and we will go again next year.

The writer is a competitive benchrest shooter... it's what I do. Each year when, at last, the cold winter leaves the Northwoods and it becomes comfortable to shoot, I get out my bench guns, fire form brass made during the cold months and tune those rifles till they will shoot tiny groups. I'm very lucky to have a gunsmith, one Dwight Scott of Michigan, whose high quality work and good advice makes getting a competitive rifle easy.

Then, spring finally here, for a month and a half I shoot in every match I can and spend long hours on my range at home. I am refining everything I do in preparation for that biggest event of the year... the Super Shoot, held at Kelbly's Range just before Memorial Day each year.

What's special about the Super Shoot, besides being the largest gathering of benchrest shooters in the world each year? It's an opportunity to see old friends and to socialize with them after shooting hours, to see new products made specially for our sport and, also, to test one's skills against the very best. On a personal note, I regard the Super Shoot as the big coming out party of the benchrest season and any match leading up to it as simply a warm-up.

At this year's Super Shoot I had an opportunity to shoot next to the best benchrest shooter in the world, Tony Boyer of Virginia. Tony is a driven competitor with a fierce search for perfection that is unmatched by anyone else in the game. Shooting next to him is a learning experience to cherish and herein I will try to describe what I observed and learned last week at Kelbly's Range.



The best benchrest shooter ever, Tony Boyer. Note the Scott/Scoville rifle.

It is yet another benchrest moment of truth. It is Thursday afternoon, May 23rd, and we were shooting the last match for the Heavy Varmint 100 yard class at the Super Shoot. I am sitting at my bench and, having already shot my group, am watching the target of Tony Boyer who is shooting just to my right.

It is well known that Tony rarely stops shooting once he has started a group. However, this time there was a dramatic condition (wind direction and speed) switch after he had fired only two shots and he had to stop and wait, hopefully for his chosen condition to return. Instead the wind direction remained about ninety degrees from where it had been and the velocity continued to pick up. Tony had to wait... and wait some more.

Eventually range master, Jim Kelbly, announced, "One minute remaining."

Now Tony has to shoot. He quickly and carefully puts two shots into his sighter target. They impact right together but far from his first two record shots. Again he pauses for a brief moment. As I watch the wind seems to pick up even more and I expect disaster. There is no way I could shoot a good group in that wind. Then, with thirty seconds remaining, I watch in amazement as Tony calmly fires three more shots into the small hole already in his record target. I estimate the group as around a real small 2/10" or even a high 1/10".

I shake my head in wonder and put my equipment back in my cart. In a similar situation at last year's Super Shoot I shot a 6/10" group at 100 yds. In my view what Tony did was near impossible and,

yet, he did it with a calm and poise and precision that could only come from many years of having and solving similar problems.

Tony's group was measured at .223" and it allowed him to win that yardage, the 100 yard Heavy Varmint competition.

Much later in the Super Shoot Tony would be faced with another pressure situation. On the last day the competitors shoot 200 yards in the Light Varmint class, ten and a half pound rifles. The standings for the Two Gun championship were very close and all afternoon it seemed the lead would switch after every match was fired. Jack Neary and Allie Euber and Tony Boyer, each in turn, kept claiming and relinquishing the lead.

When we approached the benches for the last match, the situation was simple... Tony had a good chance to win the whole thing if he shot a decent group. He had an excellent chance to lose it by shooting big. Complicating things was the fact that we had to shoot our last group on the West end of Kelbly's range, the place that Tony calls "Death Valley".

The terrain at that end of the range is

such that the wind flags in front of the benches must be very short and have short tails, making it hard to properly evaluate wind speed. There is a very high berm running the entire length of the range on that West side and the normal Westerly winds come blasting over the berm and swoop down on the range, causing all sorts of turbulent air to disrupt your bullet's path. In an interview we had a short while ago Tony picked this as the toughest place to shoot benchrest in the U.S.A. It was to this place that Tony would come to shoot one last group and

to win or lose the Super Shoot. More on this later...

My personal preparations for the Super Shoot start in January each year. Our benchrest season ends sometime in October and each year, finally tired of shooting after the long season, I clean and put my equipment away. Late September and early October is the most beautiful time of the year in Michigan and Mrs. Wright and I try to see as much of it as we can. There is deer season to prepare for

Continued on next page



A frequent competitor in the NBRSA Eastern Region, junior shooter Janette Becigneul. Pretty girl photos tend to mollify difficult editors.

Jewell Windflags
INTRODUCING



THE FLAG LEVELER

Install on top of stands or poles.
Easy and quick set up with circular bubble level. All aluminum with brass ball.
Economy Priced.



The wind flag above is a wind gauge with a pointer. A plastic tail is attached at bottom to gather wind, which moves pointer to a black or white velocity marker at top of flag.
Stand or poles not included.

Free Brochures
PATENT PENDING

963 Westwood Road
Lockhart, TX 78644
PH 512-376-9419 Fax 512-398-5524
9 A.M. to 8 P.M.
Mastercard, Visa accepted

WINDSPEED

Best Selection of Electronic Windmeters!



KESTREL 3000
Temp & rH

SKYWATCH 3-D
Omni-directional

SKYMATE
Temp & Windchill

SKYWATCH FUN
World's Smallest

Call For FREE Catalog

CALL YOUR DEALER OR SPEEDTECH INSTRUMENTS

800-760-0004 or FAX 703-759-0509

www.speedtech.com • e-mail:info@speedtech.com

Decot Hy-Wyd

SPORT GLASSES, INC.

P.O. Box 15830, Phoenix, AZ 85060
Call... 800-528-1901 or 602-955-7825

Fax... 602-955-7151

http://www.sportglasses.com

E-mail: decot@sportglasses.com



Champs of All Sports Depend on Decot...
America's Finest Sport Glasses Have Set the Standard Since 1949.

The 30th Super Shoot

Continued

and we will work in the woods where we hunt till our "spots" are in shape for the coming season.

This is when we get out our three deer rifles and sight them in, the only time of the year we allow ourselves to shoot rifles that kick and that have three pound triggers.

After deer season comes the holidays, a time for family and things other than shooting competition.

With January comes bitter cold and snow. Then it is time to stay indoors and prepare for the upcoming season, now only three months away. Now I have lots of time to make brass for my rifles and to moly coat enough bullets to last a season. I talk to my gunsmith, Dwight Scott, often in the winter, planning for new barrels and other equipment changes for the coming season.

During the winter I spend a lot of time at the computer in my office where I can see, just outside the sliding glass doors, our frozen lake, only a few feet away.

Many of the natives like to ice fish and will be on the lake often. On a particularly cold winter when the ice is very thick, they will drive their pickups out on the lake. I prefer to stay inside and work in my office where it is snuggly warm, often with a cheerful fire in the wood stove. This is when plans and preparations are made for the upcoming season.

Sometime last winter Ron Breedlove, my benchrest traveling partner, and I decided that we would drive down to the Super Shoot together this year, each in our own car. We both have Subaru Outbacks and felt we would probably take too much "stuff" to comfortably fit into one car. We made reservations at the Royal Star Motel in Orrville, OH for the eight nights we would be there.

Last year the Chippewa Rifle Club, which is only twenty minutes from Kelbly's, had a one day, 100/200 yd. HV match on the Saturday before the Super Shoot. Contestants that shot there came back to Kelbly's with good things to say about the Chippewa match. We decided that it would be a good warm-up for the big event and made plans to arrive the

BALD EAGLE FRONT REST

MATERIAL:

Aircraft Quality Aluminum
Also, Fine Grain Cast Iron

WEIGHT:

10 to 12 pounds

FINISH:

Imron clear, 3 coats

FEATURES:

- Rack and Pinion on primary rise
- Fourth leg

OPTIONS:

- Rifle Stop
- Deluxe Top With Stop **Plus S/H**
- Bag Available
- New, Windage Top Available

\$164.⁹⁵



AMERICAN MADE

MasterCard
VISA



BALD EAGLE PRECISION MACHINE COMPANY

101-A Allison St. • Lock Haven, PA 17745

Tel (570) 748-6772 • Fax (570) 748-4443

Bill Gebhardt, *Owner* • NRA Benefactor - IBS Life Member - NBRSA Annual Member

Friday before the Super Shoot, shoot at Chippewa on Saturday and, thereafter, have three full days to prepare for the big event.

Sometime later Joe Westbrook called and wanted to drive down with us. That was fine and when the day to leave came we had a three vehicle convoy going to the Super Shoot.

Very promptly at 7 AM on May 17th Joe pulled his big rig (Dodge pickup and fifth wheeler) up in front of my place. A few minutes later we met Breedlove down by the X-way and were on our way. Joe brought three hand-held CB radios which made it easy for us to stay in touch on the highway.

About six or seven hours later we pulled into Kelbly's range. As usual I was amazed at how early some people get to the Super Shoot. It was Friday afternoon before a match that would start the following Wednesday and there were already lots of people there.

We found places to load in the big barn and carried equipment in to secure our places. A few hours later found Ron, Joe and I at the Chippewa club registering for

the following day's match. This was the first time I had seen the Chippewa range and found a well cared for, well designed benchrest facility. It has always seemed to me that many of the ranges we shoot on were not designed by shooters. This is not true of Chippewa, it is very user friendly for a benchrest match. However, the weather was a tad chilly that evening...

When I left home Mrs. Wright had urged me to take more warm clothes. We had experienced a very cold spring and she thought I might need them. I patiently explained that I had enough clothes and, besides, it was the Super Shoot and it

would be warm. We were going to "Sunny Ohioer", weren't we?

When we arrived in Ohio, I called Gloria on the cell phone, letting her know we had arrived safely. When we were finished she asked, "By the way, what's the temperature down there?"

"Forty-three."

"It's forty-four here." (Back in Michigan, nearly four hundred miles North!)

So much for "Sunny Ohioer". By the time we were done at Chippewa it had

Continued on next page

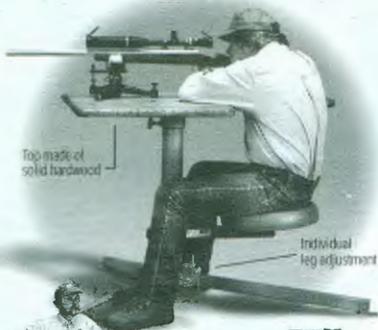


Ed Hartman shot very well this year.

**The Most Stable,
Portable Benchrest...
Period.**



**Portable Precision
Bench Rest for
Serious Riflemen**



Ballistic Nylon Storage Carrybags (optional)

Easy Breakdown!

- ULTRA STABLE tripod design- Will allow 1000+ yd. shooting!
- 1-minute setup without tools
- Sets up in pickup beds
- Levels on uneven ground
- Table & seat rotate full 360°

- Padded adjustable seat
- Adjusts for RH/LH shooters
- Breaks down for easy transport & storage (4 pcs.)
- All machined parts, precision welded
- 75 lbs. assembled
- UV powder coat matte finish

www.varmintmasters.net

541-318-7306

24 Hr. Message Phone/Fax
PO Box 6724 Beñd, OR 97708



IRONSTONE ULTRA BUTT STOCK

(Patent Pending)

Precision CNC machined hand fitted for AR-15, AR-10 and SR-25. Attaches to your receiver. No modification necessary. Perfect fit for any shooting position. Fully adjustable for length of pull, drop, eye relief, cant, and weight.



Forward Orders and Inquiries to: Frank Adams, 103 Scenic Drive, Flat Rock, NC 28731
Phone: (828) 696-3424 • Ironstone Ultra Products • e-mail: ironstone223@excite.com

IMPROVE YOUR SCORES WITH THE VERY BEST ADJUSTABLE BUTT STOCK FOR YOUR PRECISION RIFLE!

⊙ **\$350.00** - Each butt stock comes complete with spring, buffer and selected cheek piece. ⊙
Free shipping within the U.S. Dealer Inquiries Welcome

The 30th Super Shoot

Continued

been a very long day and we quickly found a place to get something to eat and checked into the Royal Star.

THE CHIPPEWA MATCH

The next morning found us back at Chippewa. We would shoot a 100 yd. agg. in the morning and 200 yds. in the afternoon. We set equipment up on the benches, put out wind flags and sipped hot coffee while we were waiting for the first match. It was quite cold and I was happy that I had dressed in several layers of clothing and wished I had brought more.

I had come to Chippewa with enough pre-loaded ammo, over a hundred rounds, to last the day. During all my testing that spring I had developed a load which I knew would shoot very well in any temperature that we might encounter at that time of the year in Ohio. This time it turned out that the plan worked.

It was very chilly when we sat down at the benches for Match One with a cold, damp wind right in our faces. I shot a lot

of sighters that first match but managed only to get a group that would measure .280". I was disappointed till I saw the other competitors' groups. Most were bigger than mine. (It really was windy.) My second group was a little better, a .238" and it moved me up in the standings. My third group, a .149" would prove to be the smallest of the day, (I got the wood to prove it) and it put me into first place. Now the day would not seem so cold and I was starting to feel confident that I could probably do well. Good luck!

The first four shots of my fourth group were in a small hole and, since I was now feeling a little invulnerable, I let the last one go in a slight let-up, thinking I was holding enough. Instead it went way upwind, somewhere into the next zip-code. The group was measured at .583" and I was no longer in first place. I have since measured the first four shots at .160". So much for feeling invulnerable.

My last group was a .298" and, although that is kinda big, because of the conditions it neither helped nor hurt me much. The damage was already done. I ended up 6th in the 100 yd. agg which was

won by Jerry Lashower. Our pal and fellow PS writer, Joe Krupa, was second.

The 200 yard part of the Chippewa range proved to be very tricky and the wind and cold and my shock from the screw-up at 100 yds. made it more than I could handle. I spent the afternoon shooting big groups and sitting in my car, heater on, shaking (I'll take more warm clothes next year, Glorya, honest.) and lamenting that one bad shot at 100 yds.

Krupa had no such problems and his 4th place finish at 200 allowed him to win the Grand Aggregate. After the match there were comments that the weather had been near perfect the preceding year. All in all, in spite of the cold, it was a good day at Chippewa. Barb and John Walters and their crew run a good match.

We all hoped that it would warm up considerably before the Super Shoot started on the following Wednesday.

PRE-SUPER SHOOT DAYS

Many competitors spend most of the days immediately preceding the Super Shoot practicing on Kelbly's range. I don't on the premise that I have been




CENTER MASS, INC.



Urban Carry Bag™



- Completely padded to protect your gear
- Comes in grey or black
- Sewn using rugged Tripak material
- Weapon bag has muzzle guide
- Compartmentalized equipment bag
- Built in shooting mat to keep you comfortable
- Bags can be individually deployed
- Velcro strips allow attachment of fictitious business signs to aid in mission concealment
- Transports Sharpshooters Rifle Rest & tripod
- Allows the sniper to be completely self contained no matter where the final firing position is located

Tactical Sharpshooters® Rifle Rest

Snipers often build unreliable rests with materials found on scene. The Tactical Sharpshooters Rifle Rest gives the sniper a familiar, reliable, portable platform which will increase individual proficiency & decrease your liability.




The Sharpshooters® Moving Target System

Our system meets all the requirements for your departments fire arms training unit. This system is lightweight, portable and very durable.



Challenge Coins



Pins



Patches



Cheek Rests



Phone (734) 416-0047 • Fax (734) 416-0650 www.centermassinc.ppg.com • centermas@aol.com

shooting nearly every day for weeks on my own range and my guns are very well tuned, thank you. I did shoot some, enough to satisfy myself that everything is still working as it should. I also try to shoot a little on each bench I will be competing on and to mark them with a felt tip to make it easier to set up the rests when we are competing. I prefer to spend those few minutes before each match watching the wind flags rather than fiddling with rests.

The rest of the time before the match is spent wandering around the camp, catching up with friends we see only this once a year, sitting in on long bull sessions, checking out new products, having dinner at the various restaurants in the area, etc. After the winter, during which we are fairly isolated in the frozen North, it feels very good to spend a week with kindred spirits.

Several nights we went to the old bar/restaurant in nearby North Lawrence, OH. It features good fish and chicken and great creme pies and is a popular place for Super Shooters as well as the natives. Good luck on getting a table there without

waiting on weekends.

We wandered in there one night, after a particularly cold day. It felt very good to take our jackets off and sit around in the warmth of the restaurant with our friends... so good that when I left I forgot my Michigan (U of M) jacket that is a normal part of my benchrest attire.

We were half way to Wally World in Massilon (errands) when I suddenly remembered and asked Breedlove, "Where's my jacket?"

My now-lost jacket was a problem because I had Gloria's cell phone in the pocket. Back to the bar we went...

When we walked in I had to take a lot of static from other shooters. I mean, who's dumb enough to forget their jacket when it's that cold outside? Eventually Tom Meredith (TM Stockworks) told me not to worry, Terry Donaldson had it and I could get it from him back at Kelbly's. No problem, I decided I would get it from Terry the next morning. He probably wouldn't even know the cell phone was there and, if he did, so what?

First thing next morning I dug up Terry Donaldson. "Dick, I didn't want that maize and blue thing in my camper."

Terry is an avid Michigan State athletic supporter and they like green and white and hate maize and blue. Anyway, he said "I gave it to Brady Knight. He said he would get it to you."

Oh, no. This is the nefarious Brady Knight (Knight's Bullets), not the sort of person one would want to have his cell phone. I go looking for Brady...

I find him standing in the road behind

Kelbly's main building and wearing a Michigan jacket that is about four sizes too big, reaching down to his knees. He appeared to be talking on a cell phone.

"Dickie, don't bother me right now. I'm talking to Australia." (The rotten person was using MY cell phone)

Eventually I would get the cell phone back and a little revenge. During the extensive and intense negotiations involved in retrieving my jacket, Brady and I did firm up our normal wager on shooting, five bucks on each agg for the whole match.

Wednesday morning came and with it sun and warmer temperatures that would last the rest of the week. At 9 AM we all gathered for the opening ceremony. After the normal, "Welcome to sunny Ohioer" and the annual appearance of a certain sartorially challenged California shooter, the foreign competitors were introduced. Then, in an emotional moment, PS board member Allie Euber presented the 2001 Benchrest Shooter of the Year award (sponsored by Precision Shooting magazine) to Tony Boyer. Allie had some health problems over the winter and we were very glad to see him there and, as it turned out, shooting very well.

THE MATCH

Eventually (I had waited fifty-one weeks for this) we were called to the benches. I was on the first relay. To my right was Tony Boyer. A couple of benches to my left was my gunsmith,

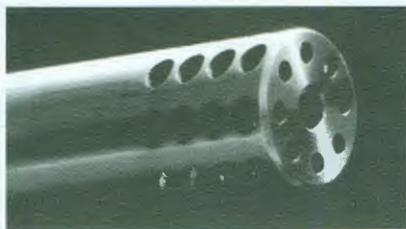
Continued on next page



A quarter ton plus of benchrest shooter, Dwight Scott (L) and Dick Wright.

Ron Bartlett's Original Vais® Muzzle Brake

Most muzzle brakes reduce recoil, but none as quietly as the Vais®.



USED BY TOP PROFESSIONALS:

Nesika Bay Precision – McMillan Bros. Rifles – Christensen Arms – Lazzeroni Arms – Arizona Ammunition – Kelbly's Inc. – Bruce Baer – Gré-Tan Rifles – Bill Shehane – Krieger Barrels

Available in .17 Cal, to 50 BMG, and diameters from .650" to 1.50". Installed prices start at \$175 for stainless or blued. Dealer pricing is also available for brakes installed in our shop, or for brakes only (to be installed by other qualified gunsmiths).

VAIS ARMS, INC.

13707 Wood Point
San Antonio, Tx 78231
PH/FAX: (210) 479-2803
www.muzzlebrakes.com
Ron Bartlett, President



Skip Otto and Chuck Bogardus.

The 30th Super Shoot

Continued

Dwight Scott, who had promised to keep an eye on my shooting and to tell me what I did wrong.

For each day of competition the Super Shoot has a warm-up match before the five record matches. I very much like a warm-up. It gives one an opportunity to settle down and just get a feel for the day and the range and conditions as well as to do a final test on the load for your rifle. I have always held that if one is going to shoot a big group in a match, the warm-up is the time to do it.

I did get the first part right. My warm-up target was kind of a splatter with three shots in a hole and one out on either side. It measured .470". On my right, Tony shot well with a .266". Dwight's .234" also looked good. Our pal, Dr. Alex Dutko, was shooting just the other side of Dwight and his .228" group looked very small, especially when compared to mine. But, again, this was the warm-up and did not count in the agg or the two Gun.

There are sixty benches at Kelbly's. This day there were six relays, all nearly full, for a total of almost 360 competitors. Thus it was quite a while before we would return to our benches for Match One.

There was a lot of interest in Match One. Chuck Bogardus, "Bogie" of internet fame, had decided to collect a World team cash option for the first official match of the Super Shoot. Any competitor could enter by simply coughing up ten bucks. The person shooting the smallest group in match one would get half the cash. The U.S. World Benchrest Team for 2003 would get the other half.

Thus Bogie donated a lot of time during registration collecting cash from competitors and, by the time we shot the match, there was enough money to pay the winner over a thousand dollars cash, with the world team benefitting by an equal amount.

Eventually we returned to the benches for Match One. Now, warm-up over, it was for serious... we were shooting to win the Super Shoot; the Kentucky Derby or Daytona 500 of benchrest shooting.

The conditions looked shootable, considerably nicer than normal at that range, and I carefully shot several sighters and, liking the results, went up to the top target and shot a small, round group. To me it looked too big to win the big money



Brady Knight (L) and Ed Hall, 2001 Super Shoot winner. Brady is raising money to pay off wagers.



PAC-NOR BARRELING, INC.

Pull-buttoned, stress-relieved and hand-lapped in chrome-moly & stainless custom made, precision rifle barrels.

- Barrel Blanks
- Contoured Blanks
- Prefit Barrels
- Fit & Chambering Services
- Bluing & Fluting & Cryo
- Muzzlebrakes, Add on & Integral

Most standard & hundreds of wildcat chamberings (.17 cal. - 20mm)

For information write or call:

PAC-NOR BARRELING, INC.

99299 Overlook Road • P.O. Box 6188

Brookings, Oregon 97415

6:30am-3:00pm M-F

Phone (541) 469-7330 • Fax (541) 469-7331

SEE OUR WEBSITE www.pac-nor.com • info@pac-nor.com

THE "MASTERBRAKE" BY GEORGE VAIS

HIGHEST PERFORMANCE RECOIL AND SOUND CONTROL

From Left To Right: 1) 50 B.M.G. 2) Tactical and prone with side vents only (not to blow dust off the ground). 3) Hunting and target brake (O.D. $3/4"$ to $1\ 1/2"$). 4) Mini brake (O.D. $5/8"$ to $3/4"$).

All brakes made of stainless steel and carbon steel. Installed prices start at \$160.00. Dealer prices available and muzzlebrakes for gunsmiths. Custom rifles and rebarreling.

Send self addressed stamped envelope for brochure. Dealers include your FFL.



HIGH TECH GUNWORKS

182 S. COLE ROAD

BOISE, ID 83709

PH: 208-323-7674

Check out our website at

www.htgunworks.com

Owned and operated by

George Vais.

but I was quite satisfied.

Now I would settle into a routine, taking all the time necessary to shoot my group as well as I could and then, immediately, pointing my scope at Tony Boyer's target. He normally would shoot a couple of sighters and then wait, carefully watching the windflags, for most of the other competitors to finish firing. Most of the time I would get to watch him shoot all five shots in his group. When he was done I would quickly check Dwight Scott's and Alex Dutko's targets, both just to my left, giving me an excellent feel for how well I had done, and then start putting my bench equipment into my cart.

All our groups were surprisingly similar that first match. My .225" was just slightly better than Tony's .228", Dwight's .246" and Alex's .296". I was happy, needing only to do that nineteen more times for record in order to place really well in the Super Shoot.

When the scores for the first match were posted I think most of the competitors probably felt the same way I did... since I didn't win Bogie's cash option, I was really happy that Faye Boyer, Mrs. Tony Boyer, the only woman in the Benchrest Hall of Fame, did win it with a .109" group.

Leupold Stevens, Inc. maker of the new Leupold Competition Series scope, in this writer's opinion the best scope ever made for benchrest shooting, had two of their executives there. Both Tom

Fruechtel, president, and Allen Tucker, chief engineer, were there and competing.

As part of their Super Shoot promotion Leupold had generously offered to donate one Competition Series scope to the person shooting the smallest group each day of the match.

Faye Boyer's .109" group, winner of Bogie's cash option, would hold up to also win the best group of the day. This means she won the Leupold scope AND Kelbly's best group of the day cash option which is worth several hundred bucks. Since her winnings, counting the value of the scope, had to be worth in excess of two thousand dollars, I do hope that she felt that she could afford to buy Tony dinner that night. (Knowing Tony he probably wanted to practice.)

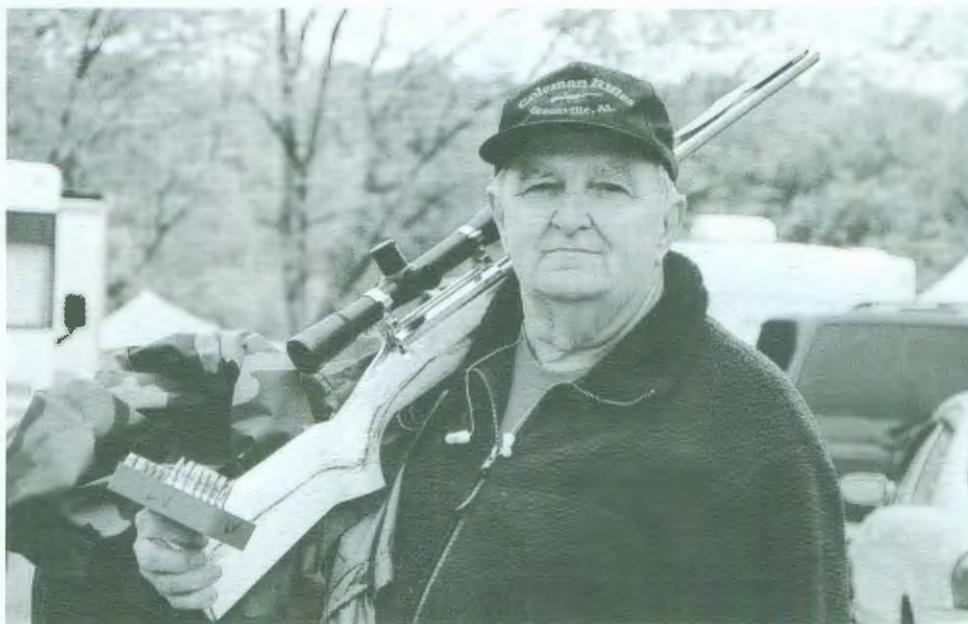
My second record group was a .309", less than wonderful, but, since it put me in 118th place for that match, it was better

than 2/3 of the roughly 360 competitors. Even on a nice day, there is wind at Kelbly's. My third group was a .159", good enough for 6th place in that match. Because of it, the next day Jim Kelbly would say those wonderful words, "Dick Wright, come and get'cher money" as only he can say them.

To clarify here, Kelbly's pay the first five places in each match. However, somebody who shot a better group than I had opted not to get into the cash option. Thusly I got fifth place money, thirty five dollars in this case. By shooting the sixth best group I got most of my \$50.00 cash option fee back.

Last year I had the same thing happen. I got second place money, \$135.00, for a third place group and made a handsome profit. Again somebody hadn't got in the

Continued on next page



Mickey Coleman runs the Rachel's Glen range in Alabama.



Buddy Ross of Florida and the NBRSA Southeastern Region.

Precision Chamber Reamers World Renowned Reamer Maker

- * CHAMBER REAMERS WITH ROTATING BUSHINGS **STARTING** AT \$106.00
- * CHAMBER REAMERS WITH SOLID PILOT: **ALL CALIBERS ALWAYS** \$72.00
- * PRECISION HEADSPACE GAUGES: **EVERY CALIBER** \$23.99
- ** WILDCATS AND CUSTOM ORDERS AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS**

OVER 1000 TYPES OF CHAMBER AND FORM TOOLS IN STOCK

WE GUARANTEE QUALITY PARTS AT AN AFFORDABLE PRICE.

E.C.T. LLC

TEL: (Toll Free) 866-711-8323; FAX: 541-831-4079

E-MAIL: eliotct@medford.net

WRITE: PO Box 151, Rogue River, OR 97537

The 30th Super Shoot

Continued

cash option. I have felt for years that Kelbly's cash option is the best investment in benchrest.

My fourth group was a near disaster, a .443" that looked a lot like a wooly worm, shot in a pickup, a steadily increasing crosswind from 3 o'clock. I kept holding further right each shot and the wind kept blowing it out further to the left every time. I finished the agg with an O.K. .284" group and, coincidentally, a .284" agg which put me in 55th place for the day.

The good shooters did much better. Jack Neary won the 100 yd. LV contest that day with a .2060" agg. Tony shot all good groups for a .2238" agg and fourth place. Dwight's .2754" put him in 44th place. Realistically, none of us were out of

the hunt for the Two Gun trophy although Jack and Tony were, obviously, better off than Dwight and I.

WATCHING TONY SHOOT

After spending a week watching Tony Boyer shoot, I would like to share some observations regarding his equipment and shooting style. I'm not speaking for Tony here, this is only what I saw.

Tony uses a Farley front rest with a joy stick and a conventional rear bag with big Cordura rabbit ears. He steers with and hangs on to the joy stick of the Farley, not letting it go when he fires. He brings quite a few rounds to the bench with him for each match, it looked to be around twenty or twenty five.

Tony shoots a right bolt, right port rifle. He lays his five record rounds out on a towel beside and to the right of his rifle before the "commence fire"

command. He takes his sighter shots from his ammo box. In case he should use a record round on the sighter target, he replaces it on the towel with one from the ammo box. He appears to be making really sure that he is accurately keeping track of those record rounds. He seems very, very organized and knows just where everything is on the bench.

Tony shoots free recoil. His rifle appeared to have an ejector as the fired cases pop out on to the towel to the right when he opens the bolt. He is very good at quickly opening the bolt and replacing the fired round and getting back on target. Once he is back on target, there is just the slightest pause, it appears that Tony and the rifle (and everything but the wind flags) go absolutely still for just a second or two, it really seems longer, before the shot goes off. Then it's quickly load and shoot again.

All of the above seem fairly conventional. The only thing that surprised me at all was his absolute immobility for the short time before he fires. While Tony's equipment is obviously first rate, I didn't see any evidence that his rifles shot much more accurately than some other ones there including the Scott/Scoville Snake gun I was shooting. Now the shooter... that's a different story.

I think Tony's big advantage is his ability to correctly read the flags and that he knows what to do in just about every wind condition and situation. He's been shooting thousands and thousands of rounds a year for decades now and he's kept records. His desire to win makes him go the extra mile, probably several extra miles, and when a big match comes, it shows.

THE REST OF THE MATCH

Thursday was the 100 yd. HV contest for 13-1/2 lb. Guns. The day was sunny and much warmer than it had been earlier in the week. The wind was a little stronger and there were none of the "teen" aggs that are getting to be fairly common at matches in our area. Tony won that day with a .2296" agg.

The writer was solidly mid-pack in 152nd place. However, I had managed to beat Brady Knight on Wednesday, after which he wanted to increase the bet to \$10.00 an agg. I had agreed and, again, beat him this day. Each time he paid up like a gentleman. I found it much easier to get money from Brady than it is to retrieve



Wayne Campbell shot very well taking second place in the Two Gun.

NightForce NXS 8-32x56mm, 12-42x56mm,
and 5.5-22x56mm
Now Available

3.5 - 15X • 12 - 42X Lighted Ranging Reticles
100 NightForce Scopes In Stock.
Same Day Shipping



**2500 Guns
In Stock!**

Call 800-444-1087

**Gary's
Gun
Shop**

www.garysgunshop.com



Continued on page 18

TOP 20 EQUIPMENT LISTS 2002 Super Shoot

10.5 LB. Top 20 Equipment List

NAME	CAL.	ACTION	SCOPE	SCOPE RINGS	BARREL	GUNSMITH	STOCK	STOCKER	CASE MFR.	POWDER	BULLET	PRIMER
Gene Bukys	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Bukys	Sg&Y	Bukys	Lapua	V133	Fowler 66	Federal
Wayne Campbell	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Spencer 66	Federal
Tony Boyer	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	T322	Pagliai 68	Federal
Bill Cummings	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Cummings		Cummings	Lapua	V133	Amette	Federal
Dwight Scott	6mm	Hall	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Gentner 66	Federal
Jack Neary	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Kelbly	Kelbly	Hail	Lapua	V133	AA 66	Federal
Lee Euber	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Borden	Borden		Lapua	V133	Euber 68	Federal
Charles Huckeba	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Scoville	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Self 67	Federal
Ken Hyman	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbly	Lapua	8208	Denoff 68	Federal
Greg Walley	22	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Hasecuster	Six		Lapua	H4198	Forrester 52	Federal
Joe Freeman	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Hasecuster		Hail	Lapua	V133	Denoff 68	Federal
Pat Byrne	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Hart	Byrne	Six		Lapua	V133	Byrne 68	Federal
Lowell Hottenstein	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Metric	Metric	Lapua	V133	Own 68	Federal
Jeff Summers	6mm	Stolle	Weaver	Kelbly	Hart	Summers		Summers	Lapua	8208	Summers 65	Federal
Jim Borden	6mm	Borden	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Borden	Rimrock	Borden	Lapua	8208	Weaver 66	Federal
Don Crunk	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Scott	Borden		Lapua	V133	Gentner	Federal
Mike Ratigan	22	Stole	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Ratigan	McMillan	Ratigan	Lapua	V133	Otto 52	Federal
Tucker												
George E. Kelbly Sr	22	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbly	Lapua	V133	Forrester 52	Federal
Tim Humphreys	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Hasecuster		Dalessandro	Lapua	V133	Fowler	Federal
Ron Hoehn	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Hoehn	Six		Lapua	V133	Barts 68	Federal

13.5 LB. Top 20 Equipment List

NAME	CAL.	ACTION	SCOPE	SCOPE RINGS	BARREL	GUNSMITH	STOCK	STOCKER	CASE MFR.	POWDER	BULLET	PRIMER
Tony Boyer	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	T322	Pagliai	Federal
Robert Brushinghan	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	D. Beaver	Borden		Lapua	V133	Euber 65	CCI
Jack Neary	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Kelbly	Kelbly	Hail	Lapua	V133	AA 66	Federal
Allie Euber	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Hollister	R&M	R&M	Lapua	V133	Euber 68	Federal
Scott Morris	6mm	Remington	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Morris		Morris	Lapua	V133	Pagliai 68	Federal
Wayne Campbell	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Spencer 66	Federal
Ed Hartman	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Shilen	Paschall	Kelbly	Paschall	Lapua	V133	Fowler 66	Federal
Don Gentner	6mm	Farley	Leupold		Krieger	Ocock	McMillan	Ocock	Lapua	8208	Gentner 66	Federal
Joe Freeman	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Hasecuster	six	Hail	Lapua	V133	Denoff 68	Federal
Jim Carmichel	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Krieger	Scott	Leonard	Leonard	Lapua	V133	Fowler	Federal
Bill Downey	6mm	Viper	Weaver	Viper	Krieger	Downey		Downey	Lapua	V133	Griffin 67	Federal
Lowell Hottenstein	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Metric	Metric	Lapua	V133	Own 68	Federal
Frank Marks	6mm	Hall	Leupold	Meyer	Krieger	Meyer		Meyer	Lapua	V133	Watson 65	Federal
Jean Louis Espinet	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Krieger	Kelbly	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Gros 68	Federal
Ken Terrell	6mm	Stolle	Leupold Premier	Kelbly	Krieger	Baggett	Scoville	Scoville	Lapua	V133	Federal	
Bill Cummings	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Cummings		Cummings	Lapua	V133	Arnette	Federal
Darrel Loker	6mm	Nesika	Nightforce	Kelbly	Shilen	Green	Borden	Borden	Lapua	Tubal 3000	Green 67	Federal
Don Nielson	6mm	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Nielson	Six	Six	Lapua	%322	Griffin 68	Federal
Robert Griffin	6mm	Hall	Leupold	Hart	Hart	Dixon		Masker	Sako	V133	Euber 66	Federal
Pat Byrne	6mm	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Hart	Byrne	Six		Lapua	V133	Byrne 68	Federal

The 30th Super Shoot

Continued from page 16

one's jacket and cell phone.

Friday at the Super Shoot is HV rifles at 200 yds. There are quite a number of shooters who come and only contest the HV class which is shot together on Thursday and Friday. The merchandise prizes are given out Friday after the match and, this year, the line of those waiting to draw their prize extended all the way around Kelbly's main building. Many manufacturers of BR equipment support the Super Shoot and there are excellent prizes. We have a chance to win barrels, actions, scopes and much more.

Francois LeCourt, from France, won the 200 yd. HV match that day with a .2384" agg. Tony shot well again, his .3050" put him in 15th place and he continued to be near the very top of the Two Gun standings. Our friend and gunsmith, Dwight, had a bad day, ending up three places below the writer's 113th place in the standings. However, I did shoot well enough to collect my wager from Brady again. Now I was starting to use the phrase "Boy Toy" in referring to that gentleman from Alabama and he was no longer trying to raise the stakes.

Friday evening the aging bones were really getting tired and fairly early that evening we went back to the Royal Star and had dinner with Barb and John Walters in the motel restaurant where the food and service is good. Then, for one last time we sat around the big comfortable lobby for a bull session with other shooters. There is an ice cream shoppe in the restaurant and I had my last massive hot fudge sundae built with unborn cookie dough ice cream whilst sitting around talking with the guys and worrying about the massive lies I would have to tell the doctor when I got home. There would be no more sundaes till we returned in 2003.

Saturday, the last day of the Super Shoot, is LV 200 yds. Again, the weather was decent as it had been since the match started and there was enough wind to insure that whoever won would earn it.

I have been working with a Wind Probe at home this spring and have found that it really helps me shoot a cross wind, a necessary skill if one wants to shoot well at Kelbly's. When I sat down for the Warm-up match Saturday, I noticed a Probe right in front of and a little to the right of my bench.

Since I had nothing to lose I decided to use it the way I have at home.

We had a left-to-right wind that day. During the Warm-up I found that if I waited to shoot till the indicator moved to the right to the first dot and paused there just a bit, I could shoot all my shots together. All I had to do was make sure all the flags were blowing in the same direction and wait for the Probe to say "Shoot".

It worked. My first record group (Probe aided) was a .504". I'll take a half inch anytime at 200 when I'm shooting at Kelbly's. We moved to another bench and there was another Probe. That second group was a .573" and I was starting to have more than the usual amount of fun. There was also a Probe at my third bench

and the wind co-operated wonderfully for the first four shots which went into a small hole. The Probe would move over to that first dot and pause long enough for me to shoot. However, it wouldn't stay still long enough for me to get my fifth off right away and I had to wait.

Eventually the wind direction returned and I took a chance. The indicator was moving across the dot when I pulled the trigger rather than just setting there. The impact was just a tad upwind and I learned something else. The target looked like two snake eyes. It measured .475" so I was happy. (I just measured the first four shots at .170". The little gun was shooting.) After three record groups at 200 in the Super Shoot, I had two fives and a four.



Tony Boyer receives the 2001 Benchrest Shooter of the Year award from fellow Hall of Fame shooter, Allie Euber.

ANTHONY'S PRECISION RIFLES

HIGH QUALITY RIFLE SMITHING

Specializing in custom ...

- Benchrest rifles
- Varmint rifles
- Remington 700 / XP 100's
- Pillar Bedding

Call: Anthony Pettiti
15539 Usher Street
San Lorenzo, Ca 94580
510-538-1288 (Afternoon's are best)



After each of those three groups were scored that morning I checked the standings. I kept moving up in the Two-Gun till after the three record groups that morning I was around 50th place. Two to go...

Alas, there was no Probe that I could see from either my fourth or fifth bench. Reading flags only, my last two groups were .906" and 1.253". Goodbye Top Fifty!

While I was fiddling around trying to shoot that last group without the Probe, Tony Boyer was right there beside me in "Death Valley" and shooting to win the Super Shoot. When I finished my group, as I had all week, I switched my scope over to Tony's target. I was surprised to find he had already finished. He had a completely decent but not very pretty group in the bottom of the mothball. He obviously had seen a condition that he thought would let him shoot an acceptable group and ran it. Tony's group measured .578" and, with it, he would win the Two-Gun Championship at the Super Shoot.

Ken Terrell shot a .2150 agg and won the LV. 200 yd. Class that day. Tony Boyer placed third in the 10-1/2 lb. Gun and won the 13-1/2 lb. Class, good enough for the Two-Gun Trophy. He was followed by Wayne Campbell in second place and Jack Neary in third.

I ended up in 92nd place, to my recollection, my first time in the top 100. Since the cream always rises to the top, Dwight Scott, 1998 Super Shoot winner, the man who makes my rifles and who I watched all week ended up in the Top Twenty, 17th in the Two Gun.

Best of all, by the end of the shoot I had won all four aggs from the nefarious Mr. Knight, kidnapper of my jacket and cell phone. Counting the Shamrock that makes eight in a row with Brady and I think it may be time to quit making wagers with that man... I understand he is taking benchrest lessons from Tony Boyer (Purveyor of Tony's Benchrest School, call 540-269-2573) as I write this. I mean, when you got a guy down...

Kelbly's Range is a tough place to shoot and, to me, the proper place for the biggest match of the year. The point is it's tough for everybody and that makes it fair. No one is ever going to win the Super Shoot on a fluke.

I wish now we had stayed for the awards and closing ceremony. But the old bones were tired and it was a long way back to the Northwoods and I hadn't seen

the lovely Mrs. Wright in eight days. We packed up and left. On the way home we ran into very heavy rain which, mercifully, had waited till the shoot was over.

Dick Wright
Staff Writer

WIND PROBES

c/o Gene Beggs
156 Conley Place
Odessa, TX 79762
915-369-0329

TONY BOYER BENCHREST SCHOOL

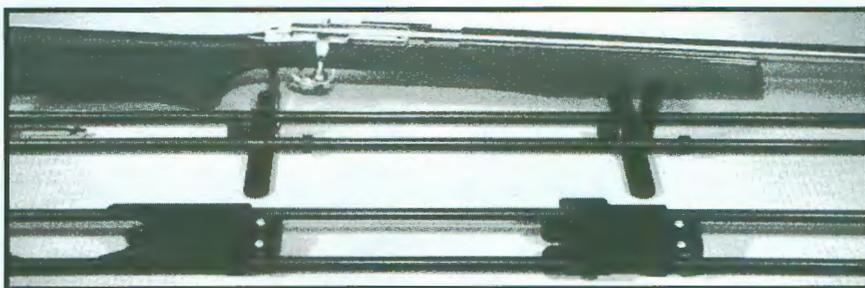
4650 Stella St.
Keezletown, VA 22832
540-269-2573



Dr. Alex Dutko and his very nice pooch.



Ed Hall (L) and the legend, Mike Walker, who probably contributed more than anybody to benchrest shooting.



HOOD'S KWIK KRADLE

Rod holder and gun cradle that will fold and go in 15 seconds

Check it out at www.benchrest.com/hoodpress

Or call 706-335-8165 for information