

# Precision SHOOTING

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# SUPER SHOOT XXXV

## — EQUIPMENT LIST

**BY JAMES MOCK**

Ohio is famous for its rainy, windy weather during the last week of May. Of course that is the time of the annual Firearms Industry Super Shoot.

This year started differently in that the weather was fairly decent...at least for the first two days. Friday and Saturday brought the traditional thunderstorms and disappointing groups for those caught on the wrong relay.

Also, different this year was the list of top finishers. Although

the “usual suspects” were in the top twenty, there were several new faces, including Steve Robbins. Steve shot consistently small all week long, and walked away with the two-gun crown. Congratulations Steve on some great shooting. I understand that fellow writer, Dick Wright, will tell Steve’s story in an upcoming article. I look forward to reading it.

Equipment lists often show that the top finishers use the same equipment as the ones that don’t finish well. This year found some new items used by several

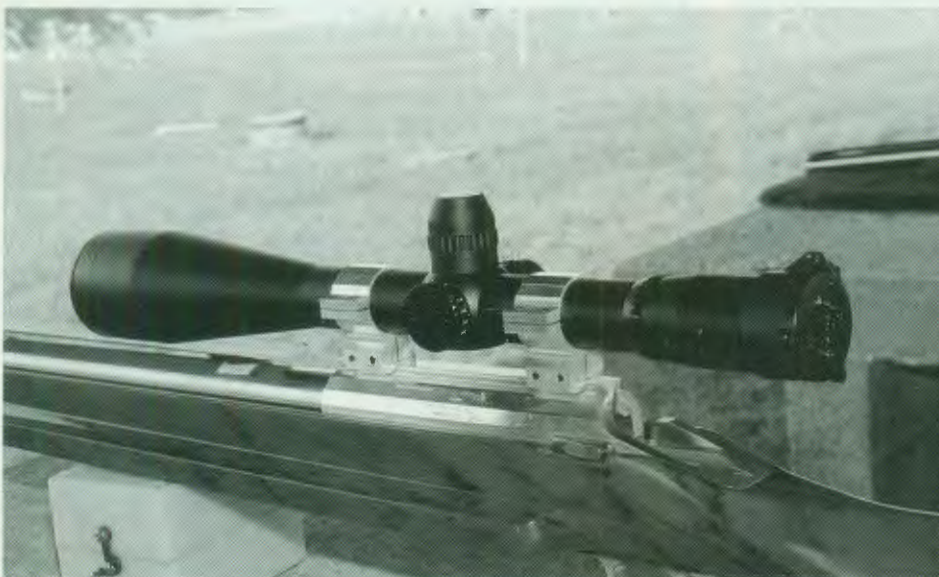
competitors. Included is the new March scope that features ED glass that gives an unbelievable image. (Photo #1 shows the first March scope on Turk Takano’s rifle) Also, many shooters have addressed POI shifts with frozen” scopes positioned in externally adjustable mounts. The most common of these is one marketed by Gene Bukys. He and Dwight Scott developed this over the last two or three years. Another type is from Bob Brackney and there were several of these at SS XXXV.

Of course, the Leupolds with the Nielson ring and the Sightrons with the Adams nylon screws were used by many competitors. Benchrest shooters are willing to tackle problems in ingenious ways and the shooting community benefits from their efforts.

Many of the top finishers shot their Leupolds just as they came from the box and did fine with the unaltered ones. Allen Tucker of Leupold had a couple prototype competition scopes with carbon fiber tubes. The way that Allen is shooting lately, one had better keep an eye on new developments from Leupold.

Also, the new Kelbly trigger was well represented at this match.

Before I list the top 20 in the



*Photo #1. Turk Takano’s rifle with first March prototype.*



HV category let me add that there are ten different shooters in this list compared to the LV. This is somewhat unusual.

Kent Harshman won the HV Grand for the second year in row. This is quite an accomplishment, and now if we can only teach him to shoot the light gun. (Just kidding, Kent.)

The lists below show what the top shooters used. Are there any new trends or are the stoic

Benchrest shooters afraid to try something new?

I think the answer is yes and no. Other than self, Dwight Scott builds more winning rifles than does any other gunsmith. Leupold still has a firm grip on its dominance, but the new (and expensive) March had a good following considered how new it is. BAT and Stolle actions are used more than the others, and Bart is king of the bullet makers with Lowell

Hottenstein making a great showing. Krieger has taken over the top spot among barrel makers.

### Actions

There were 139 Stolle actions and 107 BAT actions used (according to the computer printout). The remaining actions were from

*Continued on next page*

### 35th FISS – 2007; 10.5 Equipment List

Name	Cal	Action	Scope	Mounts	Barrel	Gunsmith	Stock	Stocker	Powder	Bullet	Primer	Trigger
Lowell Hottenstein	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Hottenstein 68	Federal	Jewell
Larry Costa	6 PPC	BAT	March	Kelbly	Kreiger	Campbell	Scoville	Campbell	V-133	Hottenstein 68	Federal	Kelbly
Herman Hefta	6 PPC	BAT	B & L	Larson	Hart	Simison	Scoville	Scoville	8208	Meyer 68 BT	Federal	Jewell
Bill Goad	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Larson	Kreiger	Goodling	Scott	Green	T-322	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Ken Pritt	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	D. Bruno	Kelbly	Dalessandro	V-133	AA 66	Federal	Jewell
Bernie Burby	6 PPC	BAT	March	BAT	Kreiger	Self	Speedy	Self	V-133	Bart's Ultra	Federal	Jewell
Gary Sinclair	6 PPC	Stolle	March	J.J.	Kreiger	Ocock	Bruno	Ocock	8208	Self 65 BT	Federal	Jewell
Jason Garrett	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Garrett	Kelbly	Garrett	V-133	Fowler 66	Winchester	Jewell
Steve Robbins	6 PPC	BAT	March	Kelbly	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Jeff Summers	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Summers	Kelbly	Summers	V-133	Summers	Federal	Kelbly
Howard Levy	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Goodling	Bruno	Ocock	T-322	Levy 68	Federal	Jewell
Roger Avery	6 PPC	Swindlehurst	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Rivers	Kelbly	Self	8208	66	Federal	Shilen
Joel Nader	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbly	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Kelbly
Allen Tucker	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	BAT	Bartlein	Dalessandro	Kelbly	Dalessandro	V-133	Bishop 65		
Carlos Pacheco	6 PPC	Stolle	Leu/Neilson	Kelbly	Kreiger	Kelbly	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Gentner 65 BT	Federal	Kelbly
Larry Kopper	6 PPC	Stolle	Weaver	Kelbly	Kreiger	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbly	V-133	66	Federal	Jewell
Gene Bukys	6 PPC	BAT	Leu/Bukys	Bukys	Kreiger	Bukys	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Bukys 67	Federal	Jewell
Tony Boyer	6 PPC	BAT	March	BAT	Shilen	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Jeff Stover	6 PPC	BAT	Leu/Bukys	Bukys	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	8208		Federal	Jewell
John Pierce	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	BAT	Bartlein	Pierce	Pierce	Pierce	V-133	Bart's	Federal	Jewell

### 35th FISS – 2007; 13.5 Equipment List

Name	Cal	Action	Scope	Mounts	Barrel	Gunsmith	Stock	Stocker	Powder	Bullet	Primer	Trigge
Kent Harshman	6 PPC	Hart	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Buhrman	McMillan	Goodling	8208	Bart's	Federal	Jewell
Steve Robbins	6 PPC	BAT	March	Kelbly	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Lee Euber	6 PPC	Farley	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	LaChapelle	Borden	Dixon	8208	Euber 68	Federal	Jewell
Gene Bukys	6 PPC	BAT	Leu/Bukys	Bukys	Kreiger	Bukys	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Bukys 67	Federal	Jewell
Joe Krupa	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Bartlein	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	8208	Hottenstein	Federal	Jewell
Dave Bruno	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Bartlein	D. Bruno	Scoville	Scoville	8208	Generic	Federal	Jewell
Bob Scarbrough Jr.	6 PPC	Farley	Leupold		Kreiger	Scott	Self	Self	V-133	Hottenstein		Jewell
Jeff Summers	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	Summers	Kelbly	Summers	V-133	Summers 66	Federal	Kelbly
Jim Carmichael	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	BAT	Kreiger	Scott	Leonard	Leonard	V-133	AA 68	Federal	Kelbly
Bart Sauter	6 PPC	BAT	March	Kelbly	Hart	Stevens	Kelbly	Stevens	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Ian Owen	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	V-133	Gentner 65	Federal	Jewell
Tony Boyer	6 PPC	Hart	Leupold	Leupold	Shilen	Campbell	McMillan	Boyer	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Jewell
Lowell Hottenstein	6 PPC	BAT	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Scott	Scoville	Scoville	H-4895	Hottenstein 68	Federal	Jewell
Bill Gammon	6 PPC	Swindlehurst	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Pierce	Adamovich	TM	V-133	Hottenstein	Federal	Jewell
Joel Nader	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Kreiger	Kelbly	Kelbly	Kelbly	V-133	Bart's 68	Federal	Kelbly
Jason Garrett	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Hart	Garrett	Kelbly	Kelbly	V-133	Fowler 66	Winchester	Jewell
Ken Pritt	6 PPC	Stolle	Leupold	Kelbly	Shilen	D. Bruno	Kelbly	Dalessandro	V-133	AA 66	Federal	Jewell
Darrell Loker	6 PPC	Farley	Leupold	Farley	Hart	Green	SG & Y	Loker	V-133	Green 68	Federal	Jewell
Mike Ratigan	6 PPC	Stolle	March	Kelbly	Hart	Buettgen	Kelbly	Ratigan	V-133	Hottenstein 68	Federal	Jewell
Larry Costa	6 PPC	BAT	March	Kelbly	Shilen	Campbell	Scoville	Campbell	V-133	Hottenstein 68	Federal	Kelbly



## Super Shoot XXXV—Equipment List

*Continued*

Farley, Borden, Hart, Hall, Nesika, Rosenthal, and Swindlehurst. (And Don Neilson made his own).

### Barrels

There were many types of barrels used, but I have numbers for the four largest. The numbers is as follows: Krieger 132, Hart 60, Shilen 53, and Bartlein 34.

### Stocks

There seems to be a trend toward the wooden/carbon fiber stocks. Bob Scoville and Terry Leonard are the leading makers of this type stock. The following numbers were given to me concerning stocks. Kelbly 76, Scoville 49, Leonard 24, Meredith 15, Six 14. Of course there were others but their number was small.

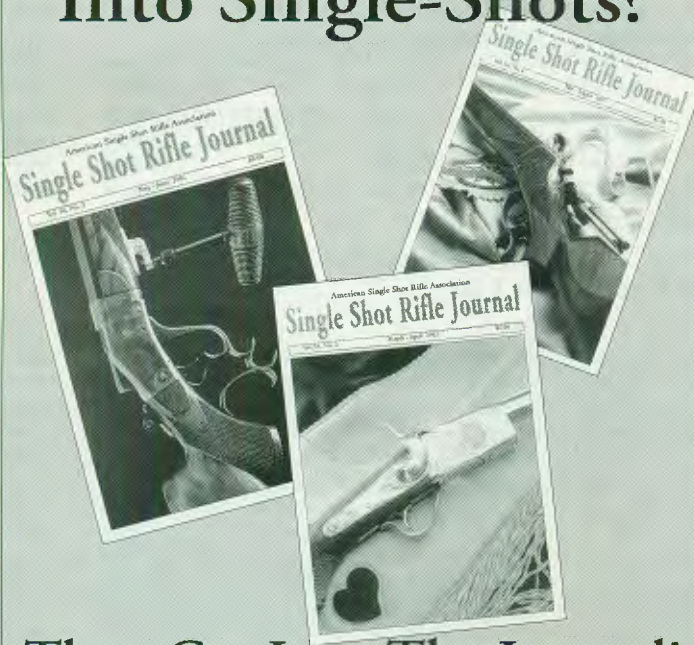
### Stockers

Old “self” was the most common stocker with a listing of 60. Kelbly’s had 26 listed, Dalessandro 14 and Hail 13. There were many others with one or two customers.

### Powder

VihtaVuori N133 has become THE most used powder in Benchrest with 208 using this Finnish product. This may be caused by the difficulty of obtaining Dupont 8208 (or its child T-32). There were 45 shooters shooting 8208 and about six shooting T-32 or T-322. I believe if one of the powder manufacturers would make a powder that had the same characteristics as the one lot of 8208 that was named

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*Photo #2. Wayne Campbell receiving HOF plaque and coat at SS XXXV.*



T-32 by Thunderbird Cartridge Company, it would outsell any powder available.

There were a few users of GI 322 and a few that used H322 along with a small number of Benchmark and Norma 201 users at this Super Shoot.

### Gunsmiths

Benchrest shooters like to control things. It is because of this trait that "self" is often listed as gunsmith, bullet maker, stocker, etc. Dwight Scott and Kelbly's are the most reported gunsmiths at the Super Shoot. Many other gunsmiths have a loyal following. Dave Bruno, Sid Goodling, Wayne Campbell (Photo #2 shows Wayne receiving his Hall of Fame plaque and coat), Gary Ocock, Jerry Simison, John Pierce, Bob Green, Clarence Hammonds, and Clay Spencer were listed several times

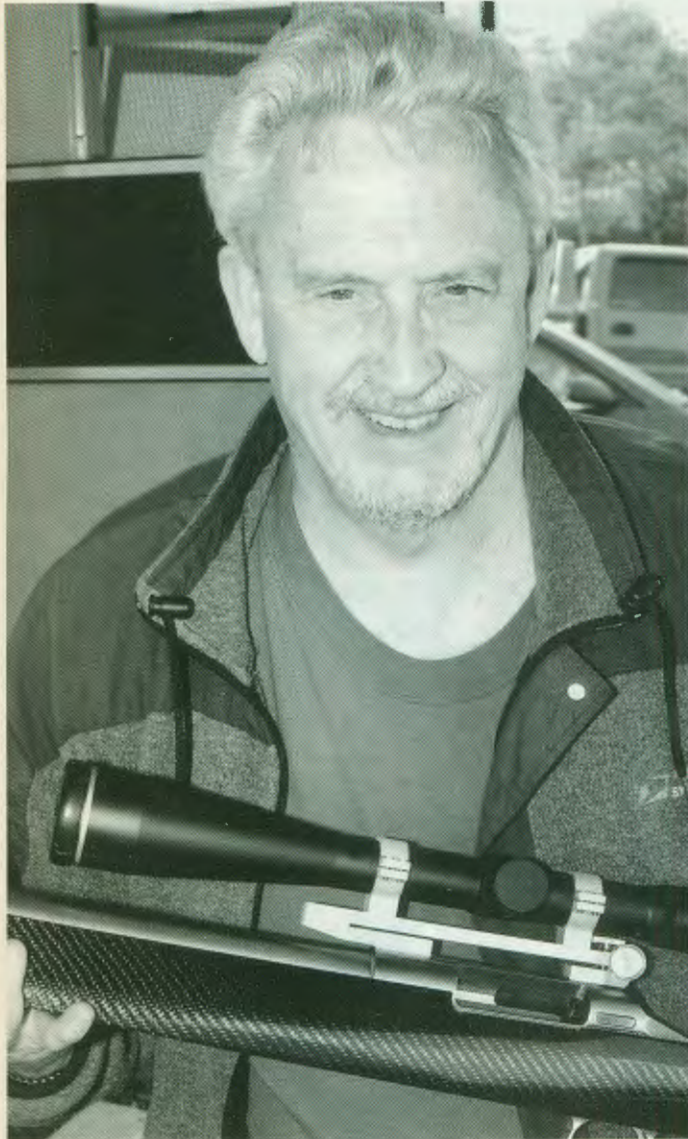


Photo #3. Jerry Simison displaying his Bukys' mount.

as the gunsmith of record.

Dwight Scott had 44 shooters indicate that he was their gunsmith and 42 listed Kelbly as their gunsmith. Greg Walley does nearly all of Kelbly's chambering. Greg and Dwight probably get very busy just prior to the large matches.

### Triggers

215 shooters listed Jewell triggers. Second to that was the new Kelbly trigger (I did not get an exact number, but a look at the top 20 will show several). There were a few Shilen triggers, also.

### Bullets

Eighty eight shooters or more used Bart bullets with a growing number using Lowell Hottenstein's offerings. Those were the two largest listings with many many more being listed. A look at the top twenty listings will show the vast number of bullets used in today's Benchrest matches. I am sorry that I did not receive a list of all the bullet makers who make the wonderful bullets that we shoot.

A bullet maker by the name of Gary Conaway won the LV 100 yard competition. He makes wonderful bullets as do many others.

### Primers

Federal is all that needs to be said about primers. Personally, I shoot Winchester, but I am in the minority.

### Caliber

The 6PPC is the choice of BR shooters in 2007. There were eight shooters who listed a .22 (either .22PPC Short or .220 Russian).

*Continued on next page*



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## Super Shoot XXV—Equipment List

*Continued*

### Summary

Although Benchrest shooters are slow to change their equipment, they will change when they get whipped by shooters with new “stuff”.

I began shooting Benchrest ten years ago and I have seen several innovative changes to the sport. The Farley rest (and those that are similar) is widely accepted by the shooters of today. Other things have changed also. The use of wind probes has evolved during that ten year span. Ejectors were scarce in 1997 but common today. The Benchrest community has addressed POI changes in

their scopes with new mounting systems that adjust the scope externally. There are three being used...Jewell/Foster, Bukys, and Brackney. (Photo #3 shows Jerry Simison displaying the Bukys mount) There are also other fixes that apply screws against the erector tube. Nielson and Adams have done this type of “fix”.

Stolle, Hart and Hall actions were the top dogs in '97, but Farley, BAT, Borden, Nesika Bay, and Stiller actions give the shooter a wider choice today.

In 1997, Hart or Shilen barrels were the predominant choice. Although these two are still used in large numbers, there are several new kids on the block. The top four at SS XXXV were Krieger, Hart, Shilen, and Bartlein. There are many others available...Spencer, Broughton, Lilja, Kostyshyn, Rock

Creek, McClennan, and Douglas (this is not a complete list of our fine barrel makers). We are blessed to have so many choices of Benchrest quality barrels.

The aggs have shrunk during the last twenty years but the competition is the same...fierce.

This was my fifth Super Shoot and I have enjoyed each one. Allow me to “whine” for those who got caught by a thunderstorm (of which I was one). This happened several times to relay #5 and to others also. That is Benchrest shooting and who cares if he/she drops 50 places with the last group of the week. Ain't Benchrest fun?

James Mock



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