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SUPER SHOOT XXXVI - 2008

IMPRESSIONS & IMAGES

BY JAMES MOCK

An alternate title could have been “Cold Weather and Hot Shooting”. Of the six Super Shoots that I have attended, I believe that this was the coldest, but there were shooters who mastered the conditions and posted amazing groups. I will post the equipment list later in this article, but let me take this opportunity to congratulate Larry Costa for his 2-gun victory. (Photo #1 shows Larry collecting his wood.)

For those readers who have never been to a Super Shoot, let me urge you to travel to North-eastern Ohio next year. Even if one does not shoot, the folks that you have only read about will probably be there. Most of these icons are very nice and will go out of their way to help new shooters.

Below are some of the folks that I had a chance to talk with at this year’s Super Shoot. Although I did not officially interview them, I will share some of our conversation.

Dr. Lou Palmisano

This was the first opportunity for me to talk to Dr. Palmisano. For those that do not know, he is the man who first saw the potential of the .220 Russian case as Benchrest case that could unseat the .222 Remington as the “King”. (Photo #2 shows Lou with an old friend, HOF member John Brown.)

Dr. Palmisano experimented with “short, fat” cases in his search for a new case for Benchrest. He did a great deal of work with a shortened .220 Swift case, but it did not work as well as he had hoped. When he saw his first .220 Russian case, he was extremely interested in its potential. Through some sort of serendipity, five boxes of .220 Sako brass were discovered at a gun shop. Lou bought these and through a lot of effort and expense, he introduced the world to a new standard of accuracy.

Being a man of science, Dr. Palmisano did not take anything for granted. He paid for extensive testing on the new brass and found that it was everything that he wanted in a new case. When his twelve year old son, David, won a



Photo #1. Larry Costa collecting his “wood”.

Continued on page 7

Super Shoot XXXVI – 2008

Continued from page 5

yardage at an IBS Championship with the PPC, a lot of the experienced took note of the new cartridge. By 1981, the cartridge was used by almost all of the top shooters, and the top twenty at the 2008 Super Shoot were all shooting the PPC cartridge.

After meeting Ferris Pindell at a BR match, Lou and Ferris became partners to give today's shooters an amazing cartridge.

David Detsch

Although many recognize the Detsch name, many have not met the second generation die maker David Detsch. Clarence, his father, was well known and respected by those who made custom bullets.

Since the passing of his father, David has decided to continue the bullet die business. David is not new to making these fine carbide dies. He has been making them on a part time basis for many years. Recently, he decided to make dies on a full time basis. (Photo #3 Richard Milton and David at the Super Shoot). When I asked David what he considered the most important element in a great set of dies, he answered that they must make CONCENTRIC bullets. His dies do indeed make bullets that are BENCHREST quality.

Bart Sauter's BT and Ultra bullets come from dies made by David, as well as the OO from Lester Bruno. Don Gentner has used Detsch dies for years and his famous "Black-birds" are from those dies.

If you are interested in "rolling your own" bullets, David Detsch can build you a set of carbide dies that are as good as any made. David



Photo #2. Dr. Lou Palmisano and John Brown.



Photo #3. Richard Milton and David Detsch.

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Super Shoot XXXVI – 2008

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can be reached by e-mail at david@diemaker.us or by telephone at 814-834-3035.

Fred Moreo

If you are a fan of Savage rifles, the name of Fred Moreo is known to you. He is the Savage guru that



Photo #5. Fred Moreo.

owns and operates Sharp Shooter Supply of Delphos, Ohio. (**Photo #5** – Fred Moreo).

Fred has worked with Arnold Jewell and has developed a 2 ounce trigger for Savage actions. Also, he has worked with *Precision Shooting's* own Bob Greenleaf (a long time Savage employee, now retired) and has become one of America's fore-



Photo #7. Terry Meyer.

most authorities on Savage rifles.

Sharp Shooter Supply builds stocks for just about any need that a Savage aficionado could desire.

Terry Meyer

I loaded next to Terry all week at the Super Shoot and found him to be a very knowledgeable shooter. Terry is a quiet man from Iowa that makes superb bullets. (**Photo #7** shows Terry at his loading station).

Terry's bullets are not as well known as some of the other makers, but they are excellent bullets. He offers both flat base and boattail bullets in several weights (6 MM). Give Terry a call at 641-998-2860 if you would like to try some of his fine bullets.

Terry Leonard

For those readers who do not shoot short range Benchrest, let me introduce you to Terry Leonard. (**Photo #8** has Mike Ratigan, author and world class Benchrest shooter, on the left and Terry Leonard on the right.)

Terry is a Tennessee boy who builds some of the best Benchrest stocks. His are of the wood, carbon fiber type that are so popular today. (**Photo #9** is a BAT rifle with a Terry Leonard stock.)

Don Nielson

Known for his "Pumpkin" neck turner, Don is a superb machinist and top competitor. He competes in short and long range Benchrest competition. (**Photo #10** is of Don) Don has shot short range Benchrest for the last two years with an action that he built himself. Also, he is the gunsmith for many top shooters, including Lou Murdica.



Photo #8. Mike Ratigan and Terry Leonard.

Skip Gordon

Without Skip Gordon's vision for a "money" shoot (i.e. – Super Shoot) this largest of all Benchrest matches would not exist. He is known as the "Father of the Super Shoot". (Photo #11 shows Skip at the 2008 Super Shoot.)

Sebastian Lambang (Seb)

This name may not be known outside the Benchrest community, but Seb is a superb machinist from Indonesia. He has a joy stick rest on the market along with many other "goodies" for today's Benchrest shooter. He attended his first Super Shoot this year and found that the weather was much colder than he expected.

Seb donated many dollars worth of prizes to be given away at the Super Shoot and they were most welcome. (Photo #13 shows Seb.)

Before the match began, I thought that this may be the year that a foreign shooter might win the 2-gun championship. Although it did not happen this year, don't be surprised if the big trophy goes to someone from outside our boundaries in the near future. Some of the likely candidates may come from these fine shooters. Peter Hammerich, Germany; Jean Espinet (Pigman), France David Kerr and Craig Whittleton, Australia,...Igor Zhukov, Seva Zhukov, and Alex Sanzharevskiy, Russia.

There were many more great shooters from all over the world at this match, and there are several that are capable of winning the Super Shoot. Stay tuned.

The above was provided by Jim Kelbly on Benchrest Central. Primers and triggers were omitted from the chart in order to save space. All the shooters above use Federal primers except Billy Stevens and Kent Harshman...who used Winchester.

There were two triggers used. Larry Costa, George Carter, Jeff Summers, Dana English, George Kelbly Sr., and Lou Murdica used Kelbly triggers while the remaining 14 shooters used Jewell triggers.

All twenty shooters in this list shot the 6 PPC. The above group represents the very best shooters

with a 10.5# rifle. They are not trying to reinvent the wheel, but use only the equipment that works for them. The conditions for this Super Shoot were very challenging.

On the following page, I will list

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Photo #9. BAT rifle with Leonard stock.



Photo #10. Don Nielson.

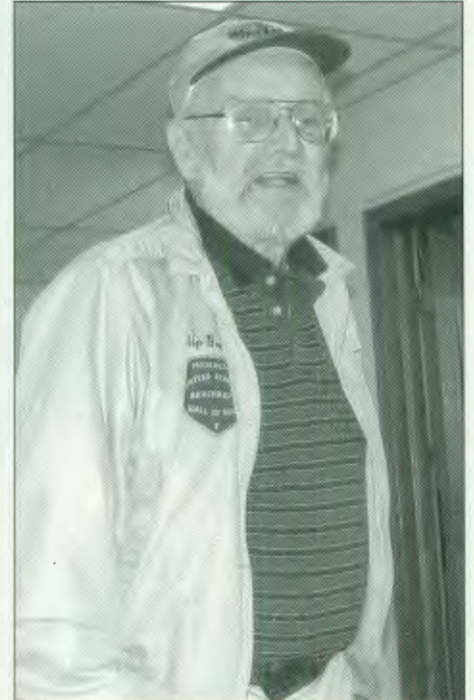


Photo #11. Skip Gordon.

Super Shoot XXXVI – 2008

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the HV Top 20. There were only six who made both the LV and HV Top 20. They were Larry Costa (2-gun champion), Andy Shifflett, Jeff Summers, Lou Murdica, Jeff Stover, and Billy Stevens.

In the past I have included the top 50 in the equipment list or

attempted to list all equipment. This year I will list only the Top Twenty LV and HV. The “bottom” 20 would probably look very much like the top twenty as far as equipment is concerned. The difference is usually found in the guidance system (the shooter).

As before there were only two HV shooters who did not use Federal primers (Billy Stevens and Milt Craven used Winchester.)

Also, fifteen of the top twenty shooters in this category used Jewell triggers (Larry Costa, Jeff Summers, Bart Sauter, Lou Murdica, and Mike Ratigan opted for the Kelbly trigger.).

Many believe, after perusing this equipment list, that winning is a matter of getting the “right” equipment. In other words, one may say, “If I get a BAT action and have a Krieger barrel fitted by “Self”; and I put this in a Scoville stock and shoot Hottenstein BT bullets pushed by 8208 powder, I will be an instant winner. If I am really serious about winning, I will get a Farley rest and a March scope. Surely that will guarantee me a Top 20 finish.

Although the equipment listed above is very important, there is much more to winning than having the “latest” equipment.

Jeff Summers is one of the best Super Shoot competitors year after year. (Photo #12 shows Jeff) Look back at the equipment list and you will notice that Jeff uses the equipment that he has whipped us with for several years.



Photo #12. Hoby Bond and Jeff Summers.

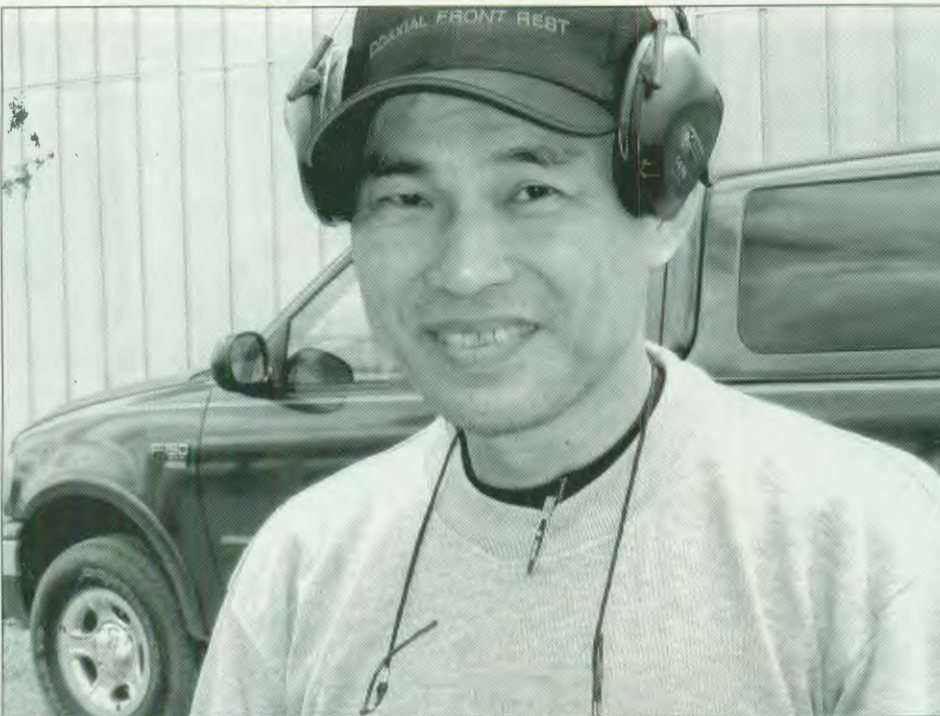


Photo #13. Sebastian Lambang (Seb).

Conclusion

If the concept of the Super Shoot piques your interest, then now is the time to make plans for the 2009 version. It is expensive to travel, but this shoot is well worth the time and expense of attending.

I hope that my personal impressions and photos are of interest to many of you. I know that I left out many who should have been included (I’ll do better next year!).

James Mock



Top 20 LV Equipment List

Name	Action	Scope	Mounts	Barrel	Gunsmith	Stock/ Stocker	Rest	Powder	Bullet
Gene Bukys	BAT	Leu/Bukys	Bukys	Krieger	Self	Scoville	Bald Eagle	8208	Self 66
Larry Costa	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Campbell	Scoville/Campbell	Farley	133	Hott.
George Carter	BAT	Leu. 40	BAT	Krieger	Self	Scoville	Self	133	Hott.
Jeff Summers	Stolle	Leu.	Kelby	Shilen	Self	Kelbly/Self	Wichita	133	Self 66
Bill Goad	Farley	Leu.	Larson	Hart	Goodling	Larson/Goodling	Farley	T322	Bart 68
Billy Stevens	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Self	Scoville	Farley	133	Bart 68
Danny Sutphin	Stolle	Leu.	Kelbly	Shilen	Self	Athey/Self	Hart	133	AA 66
Charles Huckeba	Stolle	March	Kelbly	Bartlein	Self	Scoville	Farley	133	Self 68
Andy Shifflett	BAT	Leu	BAT	Bartlein	Scott	Scoville	Farley	133	Bart 68
Dana English	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Self	McMillan/Self	Farley	133	Bart 68
Joe Hynes	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Feusse	Robertson/Moore	Farley	333	Bart 68
Lester Bruno	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Self	Bruno	Hart	T322	Bruno68
Darrel Loker	Farley	Leu.	Farley	McMillan	Self	SGY/Self	Farley	133	Acme
Jeff Stover	BAT	March 50	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Scoville	Hunte	8208	Hott. 68
L. Hottenstein	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Scoville	Hart	333	Hott. 68
Mike Gamble	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Hart	Goodling	SGY/Goodling	Farley	8208	Gentner65
Paul Sullivan	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Scoville	Farley	133	Hott.68
George Kelbly Sr.	Stolle	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Kelbly	Kelbly	Bald Eagle	T32	Hott. 68
Lou Murdica	LM-1	March	Kelbly	Bartlein	Nielson	Larson	Loh	T32	Hott. 68
Kent Harshman	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Goodling	Athey/Goodling	Farley	133	Weaver

Top 20 HV Equipment List

Name	Action	Scope	Mounts	Barrel	Gunsmith	Stock/Stocker	Rest	Powder	Bullet
Tony Boyer	Hart	Leu.	BAT	Krieger	Scott	Scoville	Farley	133	Hott. 68
Larry Costa	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Campbell	Scoville/Campbell	Farley	133	Hott. 68
Andy Shifflett	BAT	Leu.	BAT	Bartlein	Campbell	Scoville	Farley	133	Bart 68
Jeff Summers	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Shilen	Self	Kelbly/Self	Wichita	133	Self 66
Bart Sauter	BAT	March	Kelbly	Kriege	Stevens	Kelbly/Stevens	Farley	133	Bart BT
Lou Murdica	Stolle	March	Kelbly	Bartlei	Nielson	Maxson	Loh	T 322	Hott. 68
Jack Neary	Stolle	Leu.	Kelbly	Bartlein	D. Bruno	Kelbly/Delessandro	Sinclair	133	Hott.
Jeff Stover	BAT	March 50	Kelbly	Krieger	Scott	Scoville	Hunter	8208	Hott. 68
Stan Bowerman	BAT	Leu.	BAT	Krieger	Scott	TM	Sinclair	133	Hott. 68
Mike Ratigan	Stolle	March	Kelbly	Hart	Self	Kelbly/Self	Farley	133	Harvey
Harley Bake	BAT	Leu.	BAT	Krieger	Campbell	Bruno/Campbell	Farley	133	Gentner
Joe Krupa	BAT	Leu.	Loh	Krieger	Scott	Scarbrough	Hayes	8208	Hott. 68
Milt Craven	RFD	Weaver	Kelbly	Hart	Borden	Six/Borden	Sinclair	133	Euber
Billy Stevens	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Self	Kelbly/Self	Farley	133	Bart 68
Dave Bruno	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Bartlein	Self	Scoville	Farley	133	Bart BT
Gain Quaglino	Stolle	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Stevens	Kelbly/Stevens	Farley	133	Tony 68
Jack Lyons	Borden	Leu.	Kelbly	Krieger	Niblett	Borden/Kelbly	Farley	133	Fowler
Hal Drake	BAT	Leu.	Kelbly	Bartlein	Self	West/Self	Seb	4198	Tenex
Dave Abbott	Stolle	March	Kelbly	MacLennan	MacLennan	Kelbly	Seb	133	Mitchell
Craig Whittelton	BAT	March	Kelbly	Krieger	Kerr	Kelbly/Kerr	Farley	133	Rooster BT