

GCA TEAMS at Camp Perry 2009

By Jim Adell

Forty-nine GCA members fired their M1 rifles or directly supported the GCA Teams at the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry August 3-7, 2009. We entered five teams in each of the National Trophy Team Match and the National Trophy Infantry Team Match.

The principal accomplishment was the GCA "Blind Hogs" team's winning the trophy plaques for firing the high score by a team firing the M1 Garand Rifle in the National Trophy Infantry Team (NTIT) Match. Their score of 621, as well as the GCA Wisconsin and GCA Giegold Indiana teams' scores, were higher than the high score fired in the past two years. The Director of Civilian Marksmanship, Gary Anderson, proudly stated that there were five teams firing the M1 Rifle in this match, the highest number since the M14 and M16-type rifles became the main rifles fired in this match.

The photo below shows Colonel Dean Brown of the Ohio National Guard presenting the trophies to the team. From left to right, the team members are Susan Talley, Jack Talley, Bill Barott, Jonathan O'Neal, Scorer Verifier Jeff Bolles, Mike Brennan and Coach Matt Fitzmeyer.



Colonel Dean Brown of the Ohio National Guard presented the trophies to the team. Blind Hogs Team, left to right: Susan Talley, Jack Talley, Bill Barott, Jonathan O'Neal, Scorer Verifier Jeff Bolles, Mike Brennan and coach Matt Fitzmeyer.

The GCA Wisconsin team was close behind the Blind Hogs with a score of 558. The next photo shows members, bottom row left to right Clay Maugans, Kevin Anevicius and Team Captain Brian Dobish. The top row, left to right, is Jason Schedler, Tim Zoern, Don Kemps, John Stare and Don Schedler II.



Wisconsin Team, bottom row left to right: Clay Maugans, Kevin Anevicius, Team Captain Brian Dobish. Top row, left to right: Jason Schedler, Tim Zoern, Don Kemps, John Stare and Don Schedler II.

Right behind the Wisconsin team was the GCA Giegold Indiana Team with a score of 543, pictured below. Bottom row, left to right, are Luke Crouse, Andy Giegold and Greg Foster. The back row, left to right, are Brian Quillen, Tim Momper, Bob Stekete and Charlie Wallace.



Indiana Team, bottom row left to right: Luke Crouse, Andy Giegold and Greg Foster. Top row, left to right: Brian Quillen, Tim Momper, Bob Stekete and Charlie Wallace.

The GCA Hornady “Over the Hill Gang” was the high GCA team in the National Trophy Team (NTT) Match. The team members are Bob Schanen, Dennis DeMille, R. Lee Erme, the Gunny from the TV series *Mail Call* now called *Lock and Load*, Jerry Van Treek, Charlie Topp, Ken Davis, Coach Mike Gingher, Captain Guy Filinger, PHS Billy Van Treek, Frank Enica and scorer Mike Saporito.



Hornady Over the Hill Team, standing from left to right: Ken Davis, Charlie Topp, Coach Mike Gingher, Team Captain Guy Filinger, Gysgt. R. Lee Erme and Denny DeMille. Kneeling: Jerry Van Treech and Bob Schanen.

The GCA Blind Hogs, GCA Wisconsin and GCA Giegold Indiana Teams also fired in the NTT Match with essentially the same team members. The two Ohio teams in the NTIT combined to fire as the GCA Ohio team in the NTT as shown in the photo below. The front row, left to right, are Richard Curry, Franco Scarpino, Jim Adell and Jim Colip. The rear row, left to right are Al Bulejck, Tim McGrattan, George Kolarik, Michael Wearley, Tom Raszka and Ventz Potochnik.

This year only about 15 people shot the individual matches (the NTI and President’s 100) with about eight shooting the Hearst Doubles Match. There continues to be room for growth here. One problem is that about 33 people wanted to shoot the Garand Match with the GCA reimbursing their entry fees. We need to remember that the purpose of shooting the individual matches is for GCA members to get “Camp Perry zeros” for their M1 rifles before the team matches. The Garand Match is fired the day after the last CMP team match. The reason for reimbursing the individual entry fees for the Garand Match is to encourage GCA members to come to Camp Perry, as well as supporting the CMP. We are being successful at that.

It is very encouraging that three teams, GCA Blind Hogs, GCA Giegold Indiana and GCA Wisconsin, practiced as teams before coming to Camp Perry. The GCA Ohio team had several members who also practiced together as a team. Teams practicing together not only become more proficient with their M1 rifles, which increases the team scores, but they develop a sense of camaraderie. This furthers the goal of the GCA of encouraging members to identify with their M1 rifles and our association. Our scores are improving, which is a function of the practice before the matches and participating in the individual matches before the team matches. In addition, the fact that we are having a number of people coming back each year shows that experience counts.

The Greek M2 Ball ammunition, which was donated by the CMP, was issued to the shooters and was very much appreciated. Orest Michaels was personally thanked. He said that the CMP would again support the GCA teams at Camp Perry in 2010.

The Team GCA T-shirts presented to each shooter and support person were quite popular. The only recommendation for change for next year is to have “Garand Collectors Association” on the shirt.

The CMP has already posted the schedule for the 2010 National Matches on its Web site. It is time for all GCA members to consider if they can come to Camp Perry and shoot their M1 rifles with other members of our association.

Member Tom Shettig also detailed his experiences at Camp Perry, look for it in the next issue.



Ohio Teams, bottom row, left to right: Richard Curry, Franco Scarpino, Jim Adell and Jim Colip. Top row, left to right: Al Bulejck, Tim McGrattan, George Kolarik, Michael Wearley, Tom Raszka and Ventz Potochnik.