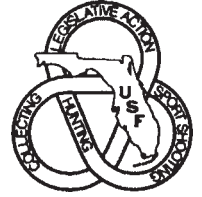


# The MUZZLEBLAST



Florida's Largest Gun Club, over 3000 Strong and Growing...

VOLUME 2004

Monthly publication of the Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club of Jacksonville, Florida

Number 3

## Sam interviews Steve Bernhard

Have you ever wondered how GATEWAY RIFLE & PISTOL got started? I have been a member almost thirty-nine years and until I did this interview with Steve Bernhard (our first president) I had only an inkling of how it came about. I knew that he was a central figure in its creation and therefore was the man to see.

Here is the gist of the interview:

Sam: Tell me how the club got started; who talked to whom and so on.

Steve: Paul Mains probably did more than anyone else in getting this club started. He was the outdoor writer for the Jacksonville Journal. I got to know him and he introduced me to a lot of people. He gave us a tremendous amount of publicity through his column in the newspaper. He worked at Finklesteins on Bay Street. Whenever I had a question about anything I'd call Paul and he'd set me right. Paul never joined the club. He was not a shooter. He was a fisherman. One day a guy wrote in to him wanting to know if there was any sort of hunting club in Jacksonville. Paul told him that he would check into it. I saw the article in the journal, got the man's phone number, called him, and he was interested in a place to shoot and so I said so am I. We had a few more phone calls and that was how we got the club idea started. The funny thing is that he never joined the club. He gave me the go-ahead but he never joined. I guess that he may have done a little shooting out there but he never became one of us. I don't remember his name." Then it worked out that it was time to get a few people together and they came right here in my living room. There was seven or eight of us and we talked and this was where my second helper came in: Joe Bouchard. Joe was a lieutenant out at NAS JAX and he did a lot of work out there for us. Later he moved to Montana, where he had a very lucrative reloading business. So we had a club

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## WELCOME BACK! TOM BEATTIE

*Present news and some more echoes from the past by Bill Craig*

At the April 2004, meeting of the Club's Board of Directors, the Club Secretary announced the resignation of the Club Treasurer. The Board then voted to appoint Tom Beattie to be the Club Treasurer for the remainder of this calendar year. Why Tom Beattie? As some of you may know, Tom ran for the office of Club secretary in this past election. He was very narrowly defeated by Janie Herick. However, he still got 49.3% of the vote. This voter percentage plus Tom's being a past Club President and Treasurer convinced the majority of the Board that Tom would be an excellent replacement. However, there is a lot more to Tom Beattie than is commonly known at our Club. This will be the main topic of this article.

Tom Beattie joined our Club in 1992. He enjoyed shooting handgun silhouette, smallbore rifle silhouette, Action Shooting and High Power Rifle competition. He joined the Board as Editor for the Muzzleblast in 1994 and served in that position for three years. Following that, he was elected to Executive Officer three years and then as President for 1998 and 1999. He was then elected as Club Treasurer for three years. He missed two (2) board meetings in all those years. As the owner of an electrical contracting business, he was involved in several construction projects out of town in 2003. This precluded active participation on the Board so Tom stepped down until he could return to Jacksonville in late 2003. While this Club service in itself is quite impressive, there are things he accomplished and was involved in that merit some newsprint and consideration by all Club members. Among these things are:

1. Tom and Will Hux were closely involved in the construction planning of our Clubhouse. Sam Cowan was the Project Manager at the

## Semi Annual Meeting

The Semi Annual meeting will be held at 11:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. (Noon) May 15th. followed by a Barbeque lunch. Ranges will be shut-down during the meeting. The 100 yard Rifle range, the 15 yard pistol range and the 7 yard pistol range will be open for general use by the members. All other ranges will be in use for activities. The swap meet will be open (except during the meeting) until the "swappers" decide to close up shop. Come on out and help us make this a great 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

### Board Members and Charter Members Banquet

It is high time that this organization paused for a moment to honor those individuals who created it and also those, who these past forty years have

time and is quoted as saying that Tom's electric company price of \$4500.00 for the electrical design, permitting, and construction was on a "at cost basis" and a real bargain. In addition, Tom's company was practically the only contractor that did not increase the original cost estimate, as the construction project grew more complex with local and state building codes, restrictions and "red tape."

2. Tom and Dennis Glasscock located a restaurant going out of business and got our kitchen stoves, refrigerator, steamer, tables, chairs and other kitchen equipment at giveaway prices.

3. The building's air conditioning system design was less than adequate. Tom worked with Don Boynkin and got the whole system installed for the cost of two life memberships for Boynkin.

4. The lighting in our in-door air range was all donated by Beattie Electric Company.

5. The flagpole and spotlight outside out main building was donated by Tom Beattie.

6. The outdoor sound system was organized by Tom Beattie and installed by Jacksonville Sound. It works and replaced a system that needed constant repair.

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given of their time and talents, to advance it from its very humble beginnings to the stature that it possesses today: one of the finest shooting clubs in the entire nation.

Steve Bernhard and a couple of helpers have been working to locate as many of the charter members as possible and I and the office staff have been searching through club records to find the Past board members who are still with the club. Our records are almost non existent (except for financial records) for the years 1964 to about 1983. If you are currently a club member and served during these years as a board member (or later if you have not received an invitation) and would like to attend the banquet call the office manager at 771-2937 and make your reservation. You have until May 10, 2004 to get this done

Sam Grimes

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Jacksonville, FL  
Permit No. 2840

## GARAND MATCH

08 May 2004

**OBI's Required on ALL Ranges**  
Open bolt indicators are now required on ALL Ranges.  
This applies to members, guests and daily members alike

**Called for Printer pickup on April 26**

Gateway R&P Club  
9301 Zambito Rd.  
Jacksonville, FL, 32210



**Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club**  
 9301 Zambito Road  
 Jacksonville, FL 32210  
 904-771-2937

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Sam Grimes 772-1504
- Will Hux 476-7700
- Janie Herrick 908-4478  
[janiedh@bellsouth.net](mailto:janiedh@bellsouth.net)
- Thomas Beattie 387-9827  
[tbeattiesr@bellsouth.net](mailto:tbeattiesr@bellsouth.net)
- Lloyd Watkins 733-1513
- Bruce Wells 764-4973
- Roger Bump 723-2677
- Bill Craig 737-5252
- Randy Erickson 448-3174
- Marion Estes 641-7775
- John Graves 904-284-8413
- Larry Gwaltney 781-3115
- Wesley Herrick 771-7548  
[fwesleyh@bellsouth.net](mailto:fwesleyh@bellsouth.net)
- Ray Kerbs 904-284-5941
- Charles Preston 545-9435
- Dave Rifkin 372-0030
- Jerry Vaughan 725-4317
- Tom VonHollen 908-9156

Steve from page 1

started but we had no place to shoot. Everyone was asked to be on lookout for a place to develop a range. Somehow William Kirkland who owned this property found out about us and contacted us and we leased the property from him. Later we bought the property from him. He joined the club for the first year but never rejoined.

Shortly after we acquired our lease Charlie Barco donated the use of his heavy equipment to put up the first backstop. Gerald Farrens and his uncle Dell Farrens cleared the land. The ground was in earthen rows from previous planting, but it got flattened out by all the traffic over it. Zambito Road was a dirt road back then and we had to ford a little stream near the corner by the property. The entrance into the property at that time was by the corner" directly south of the present shotgun range"

Skipping forward in time about six months we come to the club as I found it on July 1, 1965. The entrance had been moved to where the west gate (exit) is now. There was a single range with a dirt 100 yd. line and a 200 yd. line directly behind it. There were three or four bench rests built on posts sunk into ground on each line. This range had to accommodate every type of shooting. On even numbered days of the month the 200 yd. line was open, on odd numbered days the 100 yd line was open. There was one sheet-metal shed for the target frames and a wooden frame work which extended across the front of the backstop for hanging the target frames. There was no clubhouse, no restrooms, no water supply, no electricity, no covers over the firing lines. Look at us now.

**"Team Gateway"**

Our little "Team Gateway" group --- consisting of no shooter classified above Expert --- finished 4th out of 19 Teams on Feb. 24th. We shot 2 Savage action rifles – one .308 and one .260; a pre-war Win. Model 70 in .30-06; and an AR15. That qualified us for the Sir award. It's not worth any money but everyone has to address the team as SIR

**Cowboy Action Shooting**

The Cowford regulators, the morning of the Annual Meeting, will host an introductory shoot that will be held at bay five of the Action Shooting range. All member are invited to "Try their Hand" at Cowboy Action Shooting. Six guns, Lever guns, Shot guns and all ammo will be provided. Participants will shoot an actual Cowboy Action Stage and may choose to shoot either .38 caliber or .22 caliber guns. We will supple eye and ear protection if you do not have your own. Ladies are especially encouraged to participate.

**Pay Your Dues**

**Stars & Bars Mid-Range Championships**

The "Stars & Bars Mid-Range Championships" were held at River Bend Gun Club in Dawsonville, GA the week-end of April 3rd & 4th. There were 6 GRPC members there, and 5 shot in the Matches. Here's how we did:

- Roger Hayes ----- 1141-31x  
2nd in Master Class, Any/Any
- Will Hux ----- 542-8x  
Any/any; Will shot Saturday only
- Marion Estes ----- 496-5x  
Any/any; Marion shot Saturday only
- Fred Robbins ----- 1166-40x  
2nd in F-Class
- Joe Zullo ----- 1106-20x  
4th in F-Class

The winds were 25-35 mph in gusts, and it was Cold! We had a very good representation, I think. A lot of fun, and a definite learning experience!

Fred Robbins

The Muzzleblast is edited and published bi monthly by Dennis Glasscock under the direction of the Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. All newsletter content to be approved by the editor. Technical and/or handloading data are for informational purposes only. No responsibility is accepted for results obtained by persons using such data, and all liability for any consequential injuries or damages is disclaimed. References herein to any specific commercial product, process or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation or favoring by The Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc., its Board of Directors, its membership, the editor, nor the Publisher. Letters to the editor should be brief, to the point, of firearm-related interest and contain the signature, address and telephone number of the sender. Letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor, publisher or Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. Submissions should be sent to: Dennis Glasscock (dennisg@fdn.com) or 3214 Lenox Ave. Jacksonville, FL 32254

**GATEWAY 3X600 MATCH 04/17/04**

Great job by Joe Zullo with a perfect 600 and an excellent 46 X-count! Joe is the newest member of the Gateway 600 Club, and I think we need to get some T-shirts made up for the club.

John Roberts is going to get some decently functional sights and will be a force to reckon with in Match/Irons when he does. Great day at the range, and although we had only 5 shooters today, we enjoyed every minute. The Smallbore Silhouette Match was hugely attended, and some of your regulars were on that range today.

I finished in the top 3 for the first time in awhile. I like 600 yards better!!!

Joe Zullo	F-class	600 -46	Match Winner
Fred Robbins	F-class	597-34	
Al Thacker	F-class	591-31	
Whitney Saunders	SR	565-10	
John Roberts	Match	DNF	

**Future Inclusion of F-Class in NRA High Power ??**

Notice to Sponsors of NRA High Power Rifle Long Range Tournaments

The NRA High Power Rifle Committee recently approved a new category for F-Class Prone as follows:

5.6.1 F-Class Prone - F-Class Prone is fired from the prone position. The rifle may be supported with a rear and/or front rest. (See

Rule 5.3 while aiming and firing) (See Rule 3.2 for type of rifle).

NOTE: F-Class competitors are not eligible for National Records or awards and prizes except for those specifically listed for F-Class in the match program.

High Power Rifle Long Range tournament sponsors are encouraged to offer this category as part of their match program.

F-Class scores may be fired over any standard long range course of fire but will not be used for classification at this time. However,

**Bullseye Pistol Match**

The Outdoor Pistol Shooters are hosting a match during the Annual Meeting for Club members who would like to try the sport.

There will be 2 matches, rimfire and center fire. The course of fire is 30 rounds,

bring extra ammo in case of misfires.

This is the perfect opportunity to try out the game. There will be plenty of members to assist and answer questions.

Randy Erickson 448-3174 evenings

**Chili Cook Off \$400.00 in cash prizes!!!!**

Bring your palate scorching chilli and enter the competition. Entries must be in by 9:45 A. M. Judging will be from 10:00 -11:00 A. M.

**Awards – Best Overall \$100.00**

Second	\$75.00	Best Non-Traditional	\$65.00
Third	\$ 50.00	Second	\$50.00
Fourth	\$40.00		
Fifth	\$30.00		

**This will be your last issue if you have failed to renew your membership**

**CLUB POLICY # 51, USE OF OPEN BOLT INDICATORS**

In the fall of 2003, the Board of directors voted to require open bolt indicators on the Club's rifle ranges during all shooting except sanctioned matches being run by a Club approved Match director. This was later expanded in January of 2004 by the Board to include the pistol ranges. The intent is simply to eliminate the possibility of people being down range with a loaded firearm pointed in their direction. The following will clarify several areas: The use of open bolt indicators are required on all Club ranges where and when a cease fire or "cold line" is declared so that people or shooters may move forward of or down range of firearms that are in a "safe" or unloaded condition. There are three exceptions at present: One first is during Board approved "sanctioned" matches under the direct control of a match director and his/her range safety officers. The second is when the range is leased to a federal, state or local military or police agency willing to assume responsibility for any and all actions during that range lease rental. The third is on the Club's skeet shotgun range where no one will be down range to examine targets. However, on the skeet range, shotguns will only be loaded while in the "box" when preparing or ready to fire. Shotguns outside of the box will be unloaded. This is standard practice on "sporting clay" ranges and is adopted by our Club. To facilitate this safety condition, only Club approved open bolt indicators (OBI's) are acceptable on out Club ranges. At present, these are yellow or orange in color and are sold in our Club store. This way, our Range Safety Officers (RSO's) or any Club member may easily identify the OBI's. The use of expended cartridges, sticks of wood or other make shift indicators is not acceptable. If in doubt, the RSO, on duty at the time, will be the approving official at that time.

**Try Shooting a Black Powder Cartridge Rifle**

Have you ever wanted to experience a little of what the buffalo hunters experienced. Then come on out on May 15, at 8:00 am (200 yd range) and taste the smoke and feel the thunder by trying your hand at a buffalo rifle provided by the (BIG DOGS) black - powder cartridge shooters.

They will have Remington Rolling Block, Winchester Hi-Wall, Sharps, Ballard, Trap-Door Springfield in calibers from 38-55 to 45-90 with everything provided except safety glasses and hearing protection. Shoulder pads will also be provided. Targets will be metallic silhouette.

Come on out and have a blast at no charge

**40 Years is a Long Time**

by dennis glasscock

While riding my bicycle in the downtown area recently I started thinking about what a long time 40 years really is. In the sixties while Policing the downtown area you got to see many things. The things I noticed that are not there any longer are most of the taverns and bars where lots of my work was generated. Many business don't last 3 years must less 40. The City Hall has moved and the building on the water was just over 40. The Court House is being replaced and that building is just over 40. None of the little eateries downtown have survived 40 years.

The skyline of the city has changed dramatically in 40 years. Prudential was the tallest building. Remember when there was a George Washington Hotel, a Seminole Hotel, a Roosevelt Hotel, and a Robert Meyer Hotel. In 40 years they all bit the dust.

On May 15th, take a moment to thank the members who have made this club possible. Then step up to the table and help our club survive another 40 years

**FOR SALE**

BROWNING .22 caliber lever-action carbine, with Bushnell 3-7X scope, like-new condition - \$275. John McLeod, 5806 Hyde Grove Av., phone 786-7188

New Glock 9mm G-17. This is the full size 9mm with two magazines and the box has never been opened. It's the new style frame with the extra recoil block pin. \$500.00 firm, no trades. call fred at 221-3624

M1 Garand, 30-06, direct issue from Anniston, AL Armory, inspectors stamp, papers & box authenticating. \$1295.00 Ralph Stangel 261 8367. rmstang@fdn.com

Adjustable rifle benchrests still \$25.00 each.

Baretta Tomcat 32acp pistol. excellent cond. 250.00

Call Barney Coman 272-9781 or e-mail wbcoman@fdn.com

**New policy, Send in your ads for guns and related supplies Ads will be for one issue unless the seller notifies the editor**

IR 50/50 22 Benchrest  
Bob Pekaar 268-4537

Smallbore Rifle Silhouette  
Chuck Deason 282-9366

IDPA  
Ed Sevetz 272-8484  
< office callback >

Club 1800 Bullseye  
Randy Erickson 448-3174

USPSA/IPSC/SEPSA  
Wesley Herrick 771-7548

High Power Rifle  
Marion Estes 641-7775  
Fred Robbins 282-8398

Black Powder Muzzle Loading  
Barry Wheeler 730-3415

Black Powder Cartridge Rifle Silhouette  
Bill Crews 165-9918  
cell 910-5779

NRA/1800 Bullseye  
Randy Erickson 448-3174

NRA/2700 Bullseye  
James Watts 387-6287

Cowboy Action/SASS  
Bob Harris 724-7012

Action Shooting/ICORE  
Chris Kloeppe. 641-3205  
kloeppe1313 aol.com

USPSA 3-Gun  
Chris Kloeppe 641-3205  
kloeppe1313@aol.com

**Schedule of Events**

**CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS**

The club will be closed on Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas days each year.

**Lead Minning?**

**4th Annual Strawberry Shoot**

**Snail Races?**

**40th Anniversary Party Swap Meet Field Day and Chili Cook-off May 15**

**Please Limit Parking in front of the OFFICE to 10 minutes**

wipe your feet

**Concealed Carry Permit Classes**

Classes have a revised pricing schedule:

Club Members	\$35.00
two person pkg	\$60.00
Non-members	\$40.00

For information or reservations, call the office at 771-2937

*Required Maintenance may be performed according to this schedule*

Monday 8 AM.-11 AM 100 yard rifle line will be closed.

Tuesday 8A.M.- 11A.M. 7.5 & 15 yard lines will be closed.

Wednesday 8A.M.- 11A.M. 25 yard pistol line will be closed.

Thursday 8A.M.- noon 200yd. line & Silhouette line will be closed

Friday 8A.M.- Noon All purpose line will be closed .

**Visit the club web site [www.grpc-jax.org](http://www.grpc-jax.org)**

Tom Beattie from page 1

7. Tom was the key player and instrumental in the installation of the "Quickbooks" software computer system that the Club uses to manage its bookkeeping and records. This was a real step forward in accounting, controlling inventory and keeping track of members and addresses.

8. The grassy 200-yard line that resembles a golf course we now have was done during his tenure and direction. Previously, it was a dust bowl and weed patch.

9. The nice gravel road we have at the Club was pushed by and done by Tom Beattie at a cost to the Club of \$5500. Previous estimates for asphalt exceeded \$80,000.00

10. Even after all the above, when Tom took over as President in January of 1998, the Club's treasury was completely depleted. The Clubhouse was paid for as it was being built but it took all our savings and operational cash. We went on an austerity program and with careful spending and thrifty practices, in four years we had over \$100,000 in CD's at Jax Navy credit Union.

11. Not all was smooth sailing. At the end of Tom's first year as president, he got a phone call from our office staff. It was a Friday, payday, and there were no payroll checks prepared or on hand. Tom asked where was our Club Business Manager (CBM). Tom was told that the CBM had not been to the Club for most all of that week. Tom was unable to locate him. There was no letter of resignation, no warning, not anything to let the Club know what happened. Tom and Dennis Glasscock went to the Club and found over \$23,000 in undeposited cash and checks sitting the Club safe. There were unpaid bills going back for a couple of months. Tom then spent the next several weeks sorting out everything and getting bills paid. We, the Club, were fined for late submission of state sales tax. Tom talked Sam Cowan into coming out of retirement to become the CBM. Things got worse as more things were found that had not been done. The missing and not

completed required water testing reports on our well system initially resulted in an EPA fine of \$10,000, which Tom and Sam Cowan got reduced to \$800. With time Tom Beattie and Sam Cowan got the Club running again although few members ever really knew what hardships they faced and overcame.

12. Just when we thought everything was going well, in mid 1999, we were notified that the missing CBM finally reappeared and filed a lawsuit against the Club and Tom Beattie personally for alleged lack of overtime pay. The previous CBM was a time exempt salaried employee with his job description written by and hired by a previous Club president. However, the disgruntled CBM claimed he had worked almost every weekend for the previous two years and we owed him and his lawyer over \$60,000. We, the Club, backed by the Board of directors, hired a good lawyer and fought the lawsuits. It took over a year but we won. It cost Tom Beattie, Will Hux, Fred Gatlin (the President that followed Tom in office) and me, Bill Craig, a lot of time and effort. This was time away from our families, our jobs and our Club. The former CBM in question is now deceased.

13. Tom is one of only two endowment life members of the Club. He could have spent the same time in his businesses making money instead of giving so much of his time and business knowledge to the Club. Instead he has given most generously of his time and money to Gateway Rifle and pistol Club.

14. Last but not least is my personal knowledge as a thirty one (31) year Club member, former Club President, Vice President, Treasurer and many times elected Board Member. There is a short list of about ten people who are responsible for our Club's existence and present status. Without the people on that list, we as a Club, would not exist. Tom Beattie is on that list. In the months or years to come, I will introduce you to some more people in a manner similar to the excellent article that Will Hux wrote in January about Sam Cowan.

The above is not all that Tom did for the Club but does hit the high lights. So the next time you see Tom at the Club, how about a "thanks for everything." As Club Officers and Board members we expect criticism. We draw no pay or remuneration for being elected Officers and Board Members. We welcome constructive criticism and most everything can be improved with patience, time and money. However, my experience is that the most vocal critics at Gateway are people who have done little if anything for the Club. I will close with this quotation by Theodore Roosevelt.

*"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is*

*actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, and comes short again and again; because there is not effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the triumphs of high achievement and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat."*

Bill Craig, Board Member

## Gateway will be 40 Years Old Party May 15th Life and Annual Members Only

## Maintenance Schedule Change

Monday 8-11 AM 100 yd. Rifle line

Thursday 8-noon 200 yd. Rifle and Silhouette lines

Please note these changes to avoid disappointment

## Tournament Schedule

The schedule shows the normal dates for the regular matches shot at Gateway. Clip it out and post it on the refrigerator for future reference.

The listings should be good for each month of 2003. For example, a listing of "1st Sunday" means the first Sunday of each month, unless an exception is listed below. The calendar posted in the office is OFFICIAL and may supersede this list. Lloyd Watkins is the club's Chief Instructor and is responsible for all schedules.

Variations in this schedule will be listed in each issue of the Muzzleblast.

Match	Range	When
Club 1800 Bullseye	1	1st Sunday, 9:00 till 12:00
Smallbore, Silhouette	4	1st Sunday, 10:00 till 2:00
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4	1st Saturday 8:AM till 1:00
Highpower Rifle Silhouette	3	1st Saturday 9: A.M
IDPA	5	1st Saturday
High Power Rifle	3	2nd Sunday
USPSA/IPSC	5	2nd Saturday
Black Powder	4	2nd Saturday
Cowboy	5	3rd Sunday 9:00 AM
N.R.A. 1800 Bullseye	1	3rd Sunday 9:00 till 12:00
Plinking	4	3rd Saturday
Action Shooting	5	4th Saturday
Mini Palma		4th Saturday
Pistol silhouette	4	4th Saturday
Black Powder rifle Silhouette	3	4th Saturday
Action/ICORE	5	4th Saturday
USPSA 3-Gun	5	5th Saturday

**Call the Match Directors for additional information**

# GARAND MATCH

**03 Springfields, P14s, P17s, Johnsons,  
M-I Carbines, too.**

**08 May 2004**

**0830 Registration**

**\$15 Match Fee**

**Usual 30 round course of fire, ammo  
included in match fees.**