

The MUZZLEBLAST



Florida's Largest Gun Club, over 2300 Strong and Growing...

VOLUME 2008

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

Mar. - April

HANDLOADING FOR HUNTING

By Joe LaMarco

More advanced tools

This article is basically my opinion of several "advanced" handloading tools. For some people, spending more money on another tool when your handloads already shoot fine is dumb. For others, like me, if I thought it would make a job easier, or improve accuracy, I wanted to try it. Truth be told, you don't need any of this stuff to make good hunting handloads. Read on, if only for the humor factor. I once purchased a neck-sizing die for my .30-06 because I had heard that you got better accuracy if you left the case body "as-fired". Neck-sized cases fit the chamber better, and therefore gave better accuracy. It was true to a certain extent, although the rifle was already accurate. The load at the time was a 125 grain Barnes X-bullet (early style) and enough W-760 to make it really fly. I won't quote the exact load because it was over the top in pressure. You more experienced handloaders can probably guess what happened next. The combination of neck sizing only and over-max loads made the cases too big to chamber. Unfortunately, I didn't find this out till I tried to chamber a round at dark-thirty one morning. I finally found a round that I could force the bolt closed on, and went hunting - with a single-shot. 30-06.

Another time, I bought the RCBS Case Neck Turning accessory for their case trimmer, along with a 7mm reaming pilot. This does a great job of making the case neck shiny, inside and out. I was loading for my Contender in 7-30 Waters caliber, and was necking .30-30 brass down to 7mm and then fireforming them. That was because the only factory 7-30 ammo was a single load by Federal with a 120 grain flat point bullet for the Winchester Model 94, and it was \$19.99 a box - a buck a shot! My notes show I never fired a 3 round group better than 1-1/4 inches with that ammo. Anyway, getting back to the neck turner, I had heard or read somewhere that when you neck down a case, the neck gets thicker. Add to that the normal thickening from firing, and you need to thin the necks - just a couple of thousandths. I didn't actually check to see if my case necks were too thick for the chamber, I just took it for granted. Afterwards, I couldn't see any improvement in accuracy, as a matter of fact, it got slightly worse. But it was too late for 100 brand new Winchester cases, not to mention the bullets, powder and primers it took to fireform them, and a lot of time.

Still another time I bought a kit to Moly-coat all my bullets. I had heard that it was the cure-all for fouled bores, and gave you extra velocity to boot because of the lubrication. I spent hours moly-coating every box of bullets in my inventory. I ended up with no real improvement in anything, but a lot of dirty fingers, dies, and ammo boxes. Also, the moly was hard to remove from my barrels. I still have a few boxes of those moly-coated bullets. I'm too cheap to throw them out, and I can't get the moly off.

There are several fancy tools that I always wanted to buy, but never did. One was a case-gauging tool. RCBS calls theirs the CaseMaster, but Forster and Sinclair also make them. They measure bullet run-out, case neck uniformity, and a few other things, and are considered necessary for fine accuracy. Maybe of use to a varmint or competitive shooter, but not needed for hunting. RCBS, Pact and Lyman each make an automatic powder dispenser. You type in the amount, and it dispenses it into a scale pan. They cost over \$300.00. I'm glad I never actually bought these.

The latest toy I have been thinking about is the Hawkeye borescope. Just think - being able to look down the bore of your rifles, handguns, and shotguns and see every defect, every rust pit, and every copper smear in the barrel. It doesn't fix the problem, just now you can see it. It can be useful in determining if a barrel is clean, and assessing the ability of a given cleaning solvent to clean the bore. Usually, so does just looking at a cleaning patch after it comes out - if it's dirty, so is the bore. It would be useful to check out the bore on a used gun you were thinking of buying. But you might decide to pass on a gun because you saw a little defect in the barrel, that would have nevertheless performed well.

There are a couple of items I have that I am non-committal about. One is an electronic scale. The truth? I don't really trust it. I can weigh the same bullet three

Cowboy Action Shooting Field Day

On Saturday, March 29, 2008 GRPC and the Cowford Regulators will sponsor a field day at the club. The event will begin at 8:00 AM and last until early afternoon or as long as there are interested members. This event is open to all GRPC members and will be held on Range 5 on one of the action bays. This will be your opportunity to see what Cowboy Shooting is all about, have your questions answered and shoot a stage if you want. We will provide all the necessary guns and ammo, we ask that you come with safety glasses and hearing protection. This is a true family shooting sport with categories to fill all age ranges, styles of shooting, gender, and types of costumes. This sport is still the fastest growing, and matches are held world wide using the same rules that we use here at GRPC. Please come out and see how much fun is involved in this sport and see if it may be just the ticket for you and your family.

For more information, you can check out our website, www.cowfordregulators.com or contact me, Cowford Kid, aka Jerry Stahler at 904-219-3795.

Refuse To Be A Victim® Coming to Gateway

Refuse To Be A Victim® is a nationally recognized crime prevention program, developed by the National Rifle Association, promoting awareness and prevention of criminal attack. Topics covered include: home, automobile, phone, technological, travel and personal security.

Seminars are now offered at Gateway Rifle and Pistol Club. The next scheduled seminar will be held April 26, 2008, from 0830-1230. Call certified instructor, Sue Carter at (904) 704-8814. Space is limited, so call to reserve your spot now.

For more information or a free safety brochure, call (800) 861-1166 or visit the Web site at www.nrahq.org/safety/rtbav.

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"Encouragement of a proper hunting spirit, a proper love of sport, instead of being incompatible with a love of nature and wild things, offers the best guaranty for the preservation of wild things."

--Theodore Roosevelt, U.S. President,.....
Nobel Peace Prize Winner, NRA Life Member

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



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904-771-2937
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 club-mgr@grpc-jax.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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*Handloading
from page 1*

times, and get three different weights. I use it, but I spend more time weighing because I double-check weights on my old RCBS beam scale so often. Another is a Lyman flash hole uniformer. I use it, but it doesn't do much to 90% of the cases, just the occasional case that was not cleanly punched at the factory. But it does work, and I do use it.

Tools I would not be without include my Pact chronograph, Forster benchrest seating die for the .30-06, and Hornady's add-on Microjust micrometer for their seating dies. I never seem to have enough Midway case loading blocks, and my RCBS powder trickler is always on my workbench.

Finally, if you have been reading my other articles, you know I use the RCBS Precision Mic a lot. I have one for each rifle I reload for.

I guess there are really only a few special tools I would recommend to someone starting out, if hunting loads are the primary goal.

**Note from the
Publisher**

I recently had a hard drive failure and lost some of your items for sale. Without knowing how to contact you, I had to go to press without those ads. Please send them again if you haven't sold your items. You never know how much info you have stored on your computer until you crash. I had most everything backed up prior to the beginning of 2008.

Sorry for the problem, Dennis

The Muzzleblast is published bi monthly by Dennis Glasscock under the direction of the Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club. All newsletter content to be approved by the GRPC. 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 (dbglasscock@comcast.net) or 3214 Lenox Ave. Jacksonville, FL 32254

Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club
 Jacksonville, Florida
 Presents the

**2008 SPRING GARAND
MATCH WEEKEND**

Saturday May 31st

John Garand Course "A" on SR Target & Vintage Rifle Match
 Burger Lunch included with each entry on Saturday

Sunday June 1st

Prone Slowfire 3 X 20 Clinic (with coaches)

Fee includes T Shirt Targets and Range Admittance
 35 Rounds of ammunition will be issued to each competitor in the Garand Match
 Shooters must furnish their own Safe Ammo for the other matches.

Each Match will be limited to first 72 shooters – 3 Relays

Pre-Registration guarantee's your spot on the line as well as receiving proper size shirt

** Please Make ALL CHECKS/ for ALL ENTRIES payable to:

"Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Inc"

Mail Entries to:

Thomas Beattie, Sr – Club Treasurer
 9301 Zambito Road
 Jacksonville, FL 32210
 (904)759-7598 (904)771-1818 Fax

Match Time / Location: 0800 at Gateway Rifle & Pistol Club, Jacksonville, FL

For directions and additional details see <http://www.grpc-jax.com/events>

Schedules and Registration forms attached:

First Shot Down Range each morning by 0900

For information please call / e-mail:
 Will Hux (904) 309-2199 will.hux@mesco-offshore.com

MATCH DIRECTORS:

Marion Estes hipowerman@grpc-jax.com Joe Zullo webmaster@grpc-jax.com

OBI's Required on ALL Ranges
Open Bolt Indicators are required

Visit our web site
<http://www.grpc-jax.com>

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Ruger Number One, 22 Rimfire conversion by Broad River Rifle Works, SS barrel, match chamber, floated forend, set trigger, scope ring base included. \$1500

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Ruger Vaquero stainless, 7&1/2 inch barrel, .45 Colt
Fritz 282 1125

Minutes of January 08 Board of Directors Meeting

By William A. Craig

I. Meeting called to order by President Fred Gatlin at 7:00pm followed by Pledge of Allegiance

II. Secretary Bill Craig took roll call of BOD
Guests: Dan Jones, Fritz Ware, Dana Baygents

Fritz Ware questioned the new Club policies that are more restrictive and require range fees regarding junior shooter and out of town guests. Debate ensued among Board members as to what the policies actually are concerning juniors between the ages of 16 to 18 and out of town guests. Craig read the policies and stated Ware was correct as follows: 1. Junior shooters under 16 shoot without charge. 2. Junior guests between 16 and 18 must pay half the daily fee for one visit per year and full fees thereafter. 3. Out of town guests of Club members now must pay daily fees. More debate followed. President Gatlin said the Board would take these new policy changes under advisement.

Dana Baygent expressed concern over the loss of firing position # 1 on the 25/50 pistol range due to encroachment from the 7 yard berm. The issue was discussed but the final outcome will not be known until the lead reclamation project is completed.

Officer Reports:

President: Fred Gatlin (A) Fred closed the BOD meeting agenda for this meeting and requested that items for future agendas be submitted to him not later than noon of the meeting date. Further, discussions and comments in the BOD meetings should be germane to the item under discussion. It is expected that most work will already have been done by committees on complex issues so the particular issue is up for vote after discussion instead of being rehashed in minute detail by the BOD. (B) Due to safety concerns by Club employees, a sign on the front door will state that "holstered" pistols only are allowed in the office and store. This should eliminate members, mostly daily, from bringing jammed firearms inside the building looking for help. (C) There will be an "Executive Session" as the last item on this agenda. (D) Good news! Our property insurance decreased \$5,000 for the year 2008 compared to 2007. (E) A committee composed of Will Hux, Marion Estes and John Graves was appointed to construct a safety policy for employees in areas such as firearms safety,

Secretary: Bill Craig Bill asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the Nov and Dec 2007 BOD meetings. There being none, reports were accepted by the BOD.

Treasurer: Thomas Beattie Tom asked if there were any questions about the Nov and Dec 2007 check registers and financial statements. Reports were accepted by the BOD.

Public Relations Officer, Will Hux Will Hux will try to institute a "Refuse to be a victim" program at GRPC. He will also explore the possibility of a firearms training class for Club members. The next meeting will have some plans for the May "Chili Cook Off" contest / Swap meet.

Business Manager's Report Brenda Trickler The Club's membership as of today is 1,791 active members. 1,136 members from 2007 have not yet renewed. We could be looking at over 2,800 members in 2008. The year 2007 ended with over 2700 members, a Club record

Match Calendar The Action/ ICORE matches are discontinued for the year 2008 according to James Swenson. Air Rifle Silhouette and Air Pistol silhouette matches are discontinued for 2008 according to Mike Hicks. The IDPA and Sunshine Classic matches are scheduled for the first weekend in May. The IR 50/50 match will need rescheduling for that weekend. Further discussion on these matters will be in old and new business.

IV. Old Business

1. Mechanical Mule vehicle Beattie The Board voted to approve \$6,000 to purchase a used Kawasaki Mechanical Mule vehicle presently being used by the Range Maintenance Supervisor. His former vehicle is being used by the Range Safety Officers whose old cart is beyond economical repair. Club employees are happy with this new arrangement.

Hawk

Preston The hawk (Bullet trap) will be moved to the 7 yard pistol line after the lead reclamation project is completed. The trap will be moved by the lead mining company.

3. Lead Mining

Beattie The 7 and 15 yard pistol ranges are currently being mined and so far 30,000 lbs of lead have been removed. The Club will get 12 cents per pound and will pay no costs in the mining or rebuilding of the ranges. There will be some inconvenience from time to time for our members during this mining.

IR 50/50 22 Benchrest
Bill Smith 904-276-1008,
work 904-542-2157.

Smallbore Rifle Silhouette
Chuck Deason 282-9366

IDPA
Ed Sevetz 272-8484
(office callback)

Club 1800 Bullseye
Randy Erickson 448-3174

USPSA/IPSC/SEPSA
Kevin Panichello
221-6675

High Power Rifle
Marion Estes
hipowerman@grpc-jax.com

Black Powder Muzzle
Loading
Barry Wheeler 730-3415

BlackPowder Cartridge
Rifle Silhouette
Roger Bump 723-2677

NRA/1800 Bullseye
Randy Erickson 448-3174

NRA/2700 Bullseye
Randy Erickson 448-3174

Cowboy Action/SASS
Jerry Stahler 904-284-
4572

3x20 Prone Hipower Rifle
Joe Zullo webmaster@grpc-jax.com

Join the NRA
<http://nra.org/>

Sent to the
Printer on
Feb. 21

Schedule of Events

CLOSED FOR HOLIDAYS

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

REMINDER

Club annual memberships expire on 31 December, 2007. You will not be able to use Club facilities in 2008 until your membership is renewed. If you have not renewed for this year, please do so or risk repaying Club initiation fees in 2009. This is your official notice as we do not mail out renewal notices by letter due to the high cost of mailing. Thanks! GEPC

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

and wipe your feet

**Cut off date for the
Next Issue will be
April 20. Please get
your info to me by
then**

Concealed Carry Permit Classes

Classes have a revised pricing schedule:

Club Members	\$35.00
Non-members	\$40.00

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

*Required Maintenance WILL
be performed according to this
schedule*

Monday 8 AM.-11 AM 100 yard Rifle Range

Tuesday 8A.M.- 11A.M. All Pistol Ranges.

Wednesday 8A.M.- 11A.M. Silhouette Range

Thursday 8A.M.-11 200 yd. Rifle Range

Friday 8A.M.-11 Multi-purpose Ranges

Friday 8:AM - 11:00 New 100 yd.Rifle range

Just So You Know...

Holsters: Hollywood versus Real life

With a title like that I thought that I might get some attention. I am just about to get down a dirty about holsters, and I will be giving some names representing solely my non-humble opinion.

It is a fun game that I have when I go in a place where I anticipate people to carry guns: separate the newbies from the experienced (and that's not measured in years but gear).

Just like guns, holsters have multiple manufacturers catering to different types of shooters and marketing their products as best they can to reach their market—but again they don't all make stuff you want to trust with your life.

First, a holster on a belt other-than a gun-belt (Dillon makes some dressy ones) is like driving on flat tires: It wiggles and slides all over the place. You end up spending a good amount of time adjusting your gun, making the same adjustment you would on a steering wheel in order to remain on the road.

Second carrying a gun in a holster less than excellent is like mounting \$30 tires on a Ferrari: At the first acceleration the holster will react in an undesirable manner, and you are likely end up with your shirt in your hand instead of your gun when attempting to draw.

I carry ev-e-ry day and ev-e-ry-where. I have close to 30 holsters, spread across 10 brands. But only three of them that I actually wear on a daily basis depending on the dress code I am imposed upon: Milt Sparks: for all my High-Ride carry for big gun that must fit under a tight jacket. De-Santis: for my ankle holster back up (the only one you can run with and forget you have a gun); Harlow, for my pocket holsters when I have to be lightly dressed not to be obvious.

Don't get me wrong! I am not saying that other brands don't work—they just have their limitations. So what's a Hollywood holster? Galco for example. \$10 for the glossy catalogue with Miami Vice TV series pictures. Beautiful holsters of shiny leather but too thin a hide and too soft a mouth to hold well. Hollywood holster are easy to see, wearer spend half their time elbowing their gun to make sure it is where it is supposed to be, and that alone is incompatible with effective concealment and reliable carry.

Now that's true, Milt Sparks for example is really expensive and you go on a three to four months waiting line. But they cut the holster for you, to your belt size, width and type of carry and leather grain that best fits your climate. You put it on in the morning and you can forget about your gun for the rest of the day. The same goes for the PROtenzio custom magazine pouches—all custom-made from kydex and really tight for effective concealment.

Many years ago an employee of mine told me that he spent most of his money on shoes and bed. He explained to me that when you are not in one, you are in the other. One of the smartest things I ever heard. When it comes to pistol shooting, your gun, and what holds it are the only improvements you can actually buy—don't shortchange yourself.

Comments? Questions? E-mail me at OIC@DrOpZOne360.com

God bless. Bernard Martinage

Ps. I receive no endorsement for this article.

Jan BOD Meeting

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However, this mining must be done and both the short and long terms benefits for the Club are well worth any and all inconveniences.

V. New Business

1. Audit Committee

Gatlin Fred appointed the annual audit committee required by the Club bylaws. The chairman will be Will Hux. On the committee will be Grit Preston and Lloyd Watkins with Tom Beattie as an advisory member.

2. Request for IDPA match change

Gatlin The Board approved the monthly IDPA match to be moved from March 1st to 15 March 2008.

3. Garand Match Hux The Board approved the Garand Match which will now be Club managed on 31 May and 1 June, 2008

4. SASS match Stahler The Board approved the annual big SASS on Friday, 21 Nov thru Sunday 23 Nov with Monday morning, 24 Nov as a clean up day.

5. Sunshine Classic Match (SCM)

Preston

The Board approved the dates of 2, 3 and 4 May with seed money funding of \$1,500 as well as permission for alcoholic beverages with supper after the ranges are closed on that Friday and Saturday.

6. 2008 Matches at GRPC

Preston

Grit plans to call a meeting of all match directors in June of 2008 during which, plans will be made for all Matches at GRPC for the year 2009. With those proposed dates, the Board in its July 2008 meeting will approve or disapprove the match dates. The plan is to finalize all match 2009 dates in July of 2008. Match Directors or their representative with no input to Grit before or during our June meeting will not conduct matches in the year 2009. The goal is to properly plan these matches, avoid date conflicts and last minute requests for use of Club facilities. This planning will be fair to all Club members as well as to just match shooters.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm

A clear and Honest warning to all Shooters

Don't panic, but get moving!

You will see a shortage of all the good stuff for shooting soon as we near the election. I would buy high-capacity magazines, and rifle and pistol ammo or components NOW.

There will be panic buying when many realize that the odds of a not-so-gun-friendly president in the White House in November are substantial. Already, AR15 rifles are getting to be in short supply!

The supply of AK47 type rifles soon will be limited because of panic buying/possible bans on new production, if a not-so-gun-friendly candidate wins. In the middle 90's new AKs were banned and went from \$300 to \$1000 overnight, mags went from \$15 to \$40. At the very least you'll always get your money back even if the worst case scenario doesn't happen. Glock 19 Magazine climbed up to over \$150 a magazine (most of you must remember I am sure).

There's an interesting Russian made rifle on the market called the Saiga in .223, and 7.62 x 39 (from Russian American Armory), it can be modified into an AK style rifle, with US parts (semi auto) or left as is and modified to fit AK magazines. These rifles are only about \$300 to \$350 each, they are well made and more accurate than AKs.

Take into consideration the purchase of a 22 converter for your favorite mainstream pistol or rifle. It will allow you to shoot for 90% cheaper. Even 22LR prices are already going out of control. Golden Bullet from Remington last year they were \$9.90 for a box of 550. Mid February this year Wal-Mart gave me a price of \$13.88, which is a 40% increase. Gander Mountain sells them for \$22.10 (that's a 123% increase). Shooters in Jacksonville only sell the CCI by box of 400 for \$18.00. That is still double what it was Last year. Green Acres is up-there too.

Just remember that once the panic starts—if it does—it will already be too late.

Best to all, Bernard Martinage

Hipower Match Changes

Hipower Rifle ATC Matches are going to be held on the second Saturday of each month, starting in April.

So, Hipower shooters, re-mark your calendars.

Non-match shooters, the 200 yd range is now open on the Second Sunday mornings, effective April.

Thanks Marion

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 2007. 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 - 1200
Smallbore, Silhouette	4	1st Sunday, 10:00 - 1400
22 Rimfire Benchrest	4	1st Saturday 08 -1300
Highpower Rifle Silhouette	3	1st Saturday 900
IDPA	5	1st Saturday
High Power Rifle XTC	3	2nd Saturday 0800-1100
USPSA/IPSC	5	2nd Saturday
Black Powder	4	2nd Saturday
High Power prone	3	3rd Saturday 0800-1100
N.R.A. 1800 Bullseye	1	3rd Sunday 0900 -1200
Cowboy	5	4th Sunday 0900
Pistol silhouette	4	4th Saturday
Black Powder rifle Silhouette	3	4th Saturday

Call the Match Directors for additional information