



THE BEAR FACTS

February 2007

Southern California Golden Bears Highpower Rifle Club, Inc.
P. O. Box 1311, Thousand Oaks, CA 91358-0311

EVENTS:

NEXT MATCH– February 18, Club Match

OJAI Match – March 4– Standard Regional Match 80 shots across the course. Rose Valley Range above Ojai, starts at 7:30AM. \$10 for guests.

MATCH SCHEDULE FOR 2007 - NRA 80 Shot Regional Course matches will be held March, June, and September. All other matches will be Club matches and will include the M1 match in July and the Turkey Shoot in November.



Soldiers Attending the Squad Designated Marksman Training at Fort Benning in January. The guys are cleaning the SDM rifles they were issued for the event. The AMU wont let them touch the barrels. Apparently GI cleaning procedures are not conducive to accuracy.

NEWS:

LAST CHANCE BEFORE NEWS LETTER STOPS 2007 DUES ARE DUE: \$30 for regular members.

OFFICERS CONFIRMED FOR 2007 AT THE DECEMBER MEETING:

President- Tommy Temple
Vice President – Steve Caplan
Executive Officer – Gary Carter
Secretary – Victor Murillo
Treasurer – Alan Harker

VICTOR MURILLO IS THE NEWS LETTER EDITOR FOR 2007 – Please send any articles or requests for classified ads, etc to Victor at victor_murillo9@msn.com.

Members confirmed for 2007 – Let us know if you were left off by accident. Take the time to send in your dues or better yet, come to the February Match.

Tommy Temple	Judy Harker	Mitch Feingerisch	Jerry Allen
Victor Murillo	Steve Caplan	Gary Carter	Kurt Ingham
Alan Harker	John Child	Jules Rabblais	Doug Shelp

***** MINUTES JANUARY 21, 2007

Very brief meeting as only two members showed up.

Old Business: None discussed

New Business: Tommy Temple is exploring the possibility of shooting the Club Matches at the 200 yard distance at the Angeles Range. This has logistic problems for sighters and target scoring and Tommy is looking into the issues.

The NRA membership dues were paid this month for the Club and the Match schedule was confirmed with the NRA Competitions Office.

The CA incorporation paper were filed with the Secretary of State for the Golden Bears to keep the club CA legal for the next two years.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00

******* BEAR NEWS *******

2007 Dues are due: \$30 for regular members. This is not going up even though the range has increased the range fees from \$5 to \$7 per person. We should be able to handle this increase without increasing dues or match fees this year. The cost for 'inactive' members who join but do not shoot is \$10.

Squad Designated Marksman (SDM) Training at Fort Benning, GA

Alan Harker completed his SDM Instructor training this summer at Camp Perry, Ohio and had his first opportunity to participate as an instructor in an actual SDM training at Fort Benning. The training was held in January and was run by the Army Marksmanship Unit. In the class of 29 soldiers there was a mix of non-comm's and officers from the Army, Navy, Reserves, National Guard, and Special Forces. All were sent to become proficient with the SDM rifle firing from 300 to 600 yards at man silhouette targets. The issued weapons were the Armalite official SDM rifle with an ACOG scope and firing the Black Hills 77 grain bullet (Sierra HPBT). The picture below shows the GI's using the SDM rifle with bipod and ACOG scopes at 600 yards. There were 5 civilian instructors and 3 Army AMU members running the 5 day training .



The basic bipod prone position was taught using a hasty sling, a tight sling, and the bipod. There was also a bit of work on the kneeling position at 200 and 300 yards using the scope. This is pretty hard as the wobble zone with a 4X scope kneeling is pretty bad. Still it can be done very accurately with patience and a decent position.



The AMU guys were very helpful and all the civilian instructors were pleased with the experience. There are now 90 trained CMP SDM instructors and the program has trained around 900 soldiers. The trainings are being held in several places around the country including Fort Benning GA, Fort Bliss TX, and Fort Leonard Wood MO.

As a side note, the USA Today magazine ran an article on a Marine Corp. SDM Galen Wilson (shown with his SDM rifle). He has 20 confirmed kills and 40 probables in Iraq. The key to the program is judging distance, calling the wind, and hitting on the first shot. The magazine refers to the Marine SDM as a sniper, which is incorrect. The Squad designated marksman is a normal squad member and only engages targets out to around 600 meters. In the final firing exam (10 shots at 600, 500, 400, and 300 yards) the average SDM trainee fired around 35 hits out of 40 shots. Each relay had one perfect score.



******* RANGE TALK *******

Only two shooters and our pres., Tommy Temple showed up for the January match. The wind was blowing and the scores were a bit low. Come on out in February and lets get the year rolling.

Nelson Green	OH 84-1	RS 51-0	RP 76-0	Slow Prone 115-0 =	326-1X
Victor Murillo	OH 82-0	RS 98-1	RP 98-1	Slow Prone 184-0 =	462-2X



Alan's CMP – SDM instructor group. Mark (left) is ex army and works in banking, Randy is a software designer, Buck (cntr) is a retired Army full Colonel, Alan is a retired aerospace engineer, and David (right) is a postal worker and an ex-reserve AMU instructor. All are High Master cross the course and long range, Service Rifle Distinguished, and NRA American Rifleman. Three are Presidents 100 winners. A good group.

******* 2007 CALENDAR *******

January (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	February (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	March (NRA) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	April (CLUB) S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
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