

LONG RANGE RIFLE SHOOTER

Vol. 12

No. 1

October 2006

CAPTAIN'S CORNER

It has been a hard fought battle for many people to try to earn a position on the 2007 USA Palma Team. It started with over 100 people shooting for 28 positions in Phoenix, Arizona in October of 2005. The selection was based solely on individual scores. That was followed by a coach tryout and an opportunity for many new people to train for the team.

In April of this year, these 28 shooters and 7 coaches showed up at Fort Benning, Georgia for the next tryout and training session. All shooting was done with a coach and squad of 4 shooters. The shooters were scored by only their vertical group size. The coaches were scored only by their horizontal group size.

From there, the team showed up prior to the Spirit of America Match at Raton, New Mexico in September of this year. New scores were calculated with the same group size method and added to their previous tryout scores. The 18 shooters with the lowest group scores (low being good) were selected to the team. It was a very close battle for 18th place with 5 shooters being within 2 points of each other for the last position on the team. It was very hard and emotional for me to inform those that didn't make the final cut. They are all great shooters and all winners.

Here is the 2007 USA Palma Team:

Captain: Pete LaBerge, NC
Vice Captain/Coach: Gary Rasmussen, WA
Adjutant: Roger Whitney, AZ
Head Coach: Mid Tompkins, AZ
Armorer: Jim Cloward, WA

Coaches: Emil Praslick, GA,
 Bob Jones, AZ
 Bob Mead, IA

Shooters: Norm Anderson, GA Lane Buxton, CA
 Ty Cooper, GA Wayne Daniel, MI
 *Dennis Flaharty, CA Michelle Gallagher, AZ
 Randy Gregory, WI Jon Howell, DE
 Ed Huskins, NC Carl Kovalchik, NC
 *Mike Maurer, WA *Noma Mayo, CA
 *Kent Reeve, NC Jon Rhynard, LA
 Ron Sekellick, CT Justin Skaret, AZ
 *Nancy Tompkins, AZ John Whidden, GA

** Of the 18 shooters, only 5 have been on a previous Palma Team*

This is the best US Palma Team that has ever been assembled. But we still have a lot of work to do to win the Palma Trophy in Canada next year. That will take a lot of effort and sacrifice from all 26 team members and from you. Please support these people in any way you can with tax deductible donations to Palma Promotions. Or just by joining these people on the range and give them some competition. Shoot a team match with these people at your local ranges. It helps them and you can learn from the experience.

Until the next time, keep them centered,

Pete ■

USA Young Eagles 2007 Team J.J. Jackson, Team Manager

The 2007 USA Young Eagles Team was selected during the Long Range portion of this year's National Matches held at Camp Perry. We are fortunate to have such a talented Team for next year's Under 21 and Under 25 World Team Matches. I have high hopes for our performance next year as this is the finest Team assembled to date. This Team also has a unique characteristic that has not shown up before in previous Teams. Our 2007 Team is uniquely geographically clustered. There are obvious hotspots of junior shooting activity and support as can be seen from the roster below.

| Washington | Wisconsin | Midwest (IN, MI, OH) | Northeast (CT, MA) | Colorado |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Matt Austin | Andy Doney | Eric Eilberg | Amanda Elsenboss | Kyle Fiegel |
| Kelly Bachand | Brian Landwehr | Vikki Gaddie | Steve Joyce | Joshua Harless |
| David Littlefield | Curt Leister | Jeff Hudak | Joseph Kovac | |
| David Shank | Kyle Liebetrau | Logan Montgomery | Jeff Mendyka | |
| Kelsi Unangst | | Sam Ohlinger | | Ty Cooper (GA) |

The USA Young Eagles will be raffling a Palma rifle built by Earl Liebetrau to benefit next year's endeavor. Look for more information soon. If you'd like to help the Team financially, please make you tax deductible contribution to Palma Promotions on behalf of the USA Young Eagles.

If you would like more information about the USA Young Eagles, please visit our website at www.usaunder25team.org.

You can also email Team Manager, J.J. Jackson at M14Jackson@1scom.net should you have any further questions. Thank you for your support in the USA Young Eagles' Quest for the Gold. ■

Rifle Raffle!

The United States Veterans Rifle Team Canada 2007 is raffling off a Stolle-Panda actioned Palma Rifle.

Details: Barrel is 30" with 1 in 13 twist. Steve McGee furnished the beautiful Premium Laminated wood stock. Smithed by Outstanding Gunsmith Doan Trevor. This rifle is valued in the \$3500 range. ■



Bert Rollins, Former Vice President and Treasurer of Palma Promotions



On Friday morning, May 19, 2006, Bert passed away at his home in Fairfax, his lengthy illness with cancer ended. He was born in Washington, DC, but spent most of his life in Fairfax City. He served in the U.S. Army as a Military Police Specialist 4 and was an Assistant Rifle Marksmanship Instructor at the U.S. Military Academy, West Point. A life member of the National Rifle Association and a former member of the NRA's

National Coach Development Staff, Bert was a distinguished rifleman and won numerous awards at the USA National Rifle Championships both as an individual and a team shooter. Bert was a member of the USA Palma Rifle Team in 1992, 1995 and 1999, and was a member of the Virginia Firearms Education & Marksmanship Association, Inc., both as a marksman and a coach. One of his greatest enjoyments in life was mentoring individuals in marksmanship and coaching them to achieve success both personally and as marksmen. His focus in life was his family and he is survived by his wife, Linda; his children, Lesley Kelso, Matthew Rollins, Jennifer Isenberg, Mary Rollins; and four grandchildren. He is also survived by his sister, Virginia L. Wallace of Matthews, NC. A memorial service will be held at the Old Town Hall in the City of Fairfax, Main Street, Fairfax City, VA on June 29, 2006 from 6 to 8 p.m., with a brief service at 7 p.m. Bert requested in lieu of flowers, that memorial donations be made to the USA Palma Team via Palma Promotions, Inc., P.O. Box 3124, Fairfax, VA 22038-3124.

Published in The Washington Post on 6/25/2006. ■

Leslie Chai Cook, Director and Vice President of Palma Promotions



The daughter of a USMC Rifle Team Equipment Armor, Leslie has been around the shooting game most of her life. She began shooting at the age of 5 and still continues competing today. To her credit, Leslie has been awarded the Distinguished Marksman Badge, two Women's High Power National Records, and three Women's Small Bore National Records. Not only a shooter, her coaching resume boasts a gold medal Whistler Boy team for Small Bore and two Gold Medal Junior Teams at

Camp Perry the same year.

Leslie is a life member of the NRA and the Marine Corps Distinguished Shooters Association. She served on the Board for the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, now known as CMP. She was also a member of the NRA's National Coach Development Staff and instrumental in the writing of the Coaches Program now being taught by the NRA. Leslie has assisted Palma Promotions, Inc with obtaining support for the USA Palma Team and the USA Junior Under 25/Under 21 Young Eagles Long Range Rifle Teams since its founding in 1993.

Leslie is married to CWO3 Jim Cook, USMC Ret. They reside in Mineral, VA with their two children, Jimmy and Heather. ■

F-Class Team Participation in Ottawa Canada

The F-Class Team recently participated in the excellent D.C.R.A. matches in Ottawa Canada. Included in the program was the second firing of the Americas International F-Class match. Teams from Canada, Germany, Great Britain, and the U.S., participated in weather that included from overcast conditions to delays for rain in the mid-morning.

At the completion of four yard lines the U.S. dominated the match with a possible of 1200, dropping only 16 V's for the match. The scoring counted the V bull as a six, which made the final scores;

| | | | |
|---------------|------|------|------|
| United States | 1200 | 224v | 1424 |
| Germany | 1199 | 208v | 1407 |
| Great Britain | 1193 | 200v | 1393 |
| Canada | 1189 | 182v | 1371 |

The Team consisted of:

| | | |
|---------|------------------|---------------|
| Captain | Eric Bair | Ohio |
| Coach | Alan Warner | New Hampshire |
| Shooter | Larry Bartholome | Texas |
| Shooter | Robert Bock | New York |
| Shooter | John Brewer | Mississippi |
| Shooter | James Murphy | Kentucky |

Murphy, Warner and Bair were also Team members at the initial match in 2002 at Raton, NM

The grand aggregate for the individual portion of the F-Class match was won by Team Adjutant Vanessa Warner. Jim Murphy and Larry Bartholome also shot very well and between them carried home the lion's share of the F-Class awards.

This was my first trip to the D.C.R.A.'s matches in Connaught, an outstanding match, I won't hesitate to return, and will urge others to attend.

Eric Bair, Team Captain ■

U.S. Veterans Team

The final try out for the U.S. Veterans Team was held during the Spirit of America match at the Whittington Center, Raton NM during the week of September 9th thru 16th. There were 33 competitors trying out for the top 10 positions. The competition was very close among the top 19 shooters with positioning changing at every range almost daily.

The selection of the team was based on the individual scores fired, minus all points lost for elevation during the team matches. The top 10 shooters, in rank of total scores are as follows: Jerry Tierney – Plymouth CA, Eddie Newman – Eldridge, IA, Michel Dunia – Mill Valley CA, Boyd Goldsby – England AR, Peter Church – Dearborn MI, John Gaines – Boerne TX, Bill Lair – LaCrescent, MN, Johnie Franklin – Tulsa OK, Bob Horn – Austin AR and Bud Solis – Bothell WA.

Alternates selected are as follows: Danny Biggs – Huntsville AL, Heigo Orav – Reno NV, Scott Riles – Thousand Oaks CA, Bruce O'Brien – McAlester, OK, Marty Mayo – Jamestown CA, Blair Clowdis – Randleman NC, Mike St Clair – San Diego CA and Dave Driscoll – Vacaville CA.

Of the total 18 competitors, 10 will be selected as the final team shooters and only 2 will be named as alternates. They will all still be training and competing for the final spots at the following three matches, Phoenix AZ, December 1 – 3, 2006, Sacramento CA, March 6 – 14, 2007 and again in Phoenix AZ, April 5 – 8, 2007.

The Team Captain is Lonnie Kuhns – Fort Collins CO, Vice Captain Jerry Pullens – Fallon NV, Adjutant Al Coots – Mesa AZ, Back Coach Earl Liebetrau – Viola WI, Line Coach Jim O'Connell – Alameda CA, Line Coach Bob Gudel – Kennewick WA and Chaplain Noel Sugden from Mayville MI.

The World Veterans Championships will be held on August 26, 2007. We feel that this is a very strong team that will compete and win at the World Championships on the Connaught Ranges near Ottawa, Canada. We urge each of you to support the team with the purchase of the raffle tickets enclosed with the Long Range Shooter. ***We need your support to be successful in Canada 2007. Thank You for your support! ■***

Bert Rollins Memorial Trophy

The Bert Rollins Memorial Trophy should be a new award during the 2008 Long Range Nationals, and will be an aggregate of ALL long range matches fired with a Palma class rifle. This long overdue trophy will recognize those shooters who ignore BC handicaps and put their win reading skills to the test.

To make it a reality takes a few steps. A well-written proposal must be submitted to the NRA and passed through three layers of committees. A trophy must be cast/etched/created. A case must be crafted to transport the completed trophy. \$300 additional dollars must be raised to cover the award plaques given for the first 10 years.

To accomplish this goal, we need three things.

1. Financial backing to create the trophy, case, and cover the awards.
2. A design for the trophy to be crafted.
3. The proposal.

I am in the process of drafting the proposal, as well as searching for an artist - volunteers wanted. PM me if you are interested. My spam blocker eats mail with a forged 'from' address, so e-mail from the longrange.com forum is not recommended.

As far as the monetary backing goes, I have been in contact with Palma Promotions, Inc. They are a certified non-profit organization and will be accepting all moneys for this trophy. Their non-profit status makes your donations tax deductible. Their contact information is as follows:

I have heard from a few people about donations, and I greatly appreciate your efforts. Those of you who have not donated yet, please do. Help create a permanent memorial to a great shooter, and a platform to recognize those who are at the pinnacle of their sport.

Palma Promotions,
Inc.
Bert Rollins Trophy
P.O. Box 441
Mineral, VA 23117

Regards,
Eric Eilberg eric@martenjewelers.com
(440) 781-4114 ■

The schedule for the 2007 World Long Range Individual Rifle Championships and the Palma Match and the 125th CFRC 2007, the Veterans and U21/25 Team Matches are on the Dominion of Canada Rifle Association website: www.dcr.ca

PALMA Junior Achievement Award

The Palma Junior Achievement Award program is intended to recognize those Juniors who truly deserve recognition in Long Range Rifle shooting. Juniors need to fire only one of the required scores to win the award. One award per Junior per year will be given. To be recognized, match sponsors, coaches or parents should forward a copy of the Official Match Bulletin of any NRA Approved or Registered tournament in which a qualifying score was shot along with the name and address of the intended recipient; type rifle/caliber. The shooter will receive an engraved walnut plaque, shooting cap, pin and certificate. Mail to:

Palma Promotions, Inc • P.O. Box 441 • Mineral VA 23117

Qualifying Scores

| Any Rifle Iron Sights | Individual No Coach | Team With Coach |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|
| 600 Yards (20 Shots) | 195 | 197 |
| 1000 Yards (20 Shots) | 190 | 195 |
| 800 Yards (15 Shots) | 148 | 150 |
| 900 Yards (15 Shots) | 145 | 147 |
| 1000 Yards (15 Shots) | 142 | 145 |
| Palma Agg (45 Shots) | 435 | 440 |

The Palma Junior Achievement Award program is sponsored by Lakeview Associates, Niantic, CT, a corporate communications consulting company, Ian Cheeseman, President/CEO and Precision Shooting Magazine, Dave Brennan, Editor, and in coordination with the National Rifle Association of America, Michael Krei, Director of Competitions; and Palma Promotions, Inc. ■

2007 USA Palma Team Program

The 2007 USA Palma Rifle Team Souvenir Program is being planned now which will be distributed throughout the United States and the participating countries and others who support World Class Amateur Sporting Events. Make your commitment and reserve a space for your advertisement and "Good Luck" note to the Team! Help the USA Team BRING HOME THE GOLD!

Full Page \$1000 Donation - Half Page \$500 Donation - Quarter Page \$250 Donation - Business Card - \$100 Donation

Check out our Website at www.palma.org/USA and contact Dave Fiehtner or Leslie Cook. Email davefiehtner@adelphia.net or Lekilic@msn.com or contact the 2007 Palma Team Captain, Pete LaBerge at plaberge@nc.rr.com.

Palma Promotions, Inc. is a not-for-profit tax-exempt amateur sport fund raising organization, 501(c)(3), incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 17, 1993, dedicated to support the USA Palma Rifle Team. Proceeds go directly to the USA Palma Team Captain. Adv. Copy Deadline: April 30, 2007 ■

Long Range Rifle Shooting Website

Whether you are just beginning or an accomplished Long Range Rifle Shooter, we recommend you visit the website www.long-range.com. This website is managed by a USA Palma Team Shooter, Grant Ubl, Weyauwega, Wisconsin. If you scan the forum, you'll see that it covers subject matter such as Palma, Junior Shooting, Veterans Team issues, F-Class, Coaching techniques, Service Rifles, Gunsmithing questions and the latest Gear available that will increase your Fullbore shooting skills. The moderators on this forum are verifiable experts in their disciplines. You'll get no-nonsense answers and expert data from the greats of the long-range shooting sports, with little fluff. ■

Tax Shelter

The staff of Palma Promotions, Inc. would like to remind everyone that with the 2006 Tax Year coming to a close, you can use Palma Promotions as a tax shelter. We are a certified IRS 501(c)(3) not for profit organization. Your donations are fully deductible in accordance with current IRS rules.

Send your donations to Palma Promotions, Inc., Attn: USA Palma Team Foundation, P.O. Box 441, Mineral, VA 23117 or contact the Corporate Officers of Palma Promotions, Dave Fiehtner, President, 865-856-0506 eMail: davefiehtner@adelphia.net or Leslie Cook, Vice President, 540-894-8532, eMail: Lekilic@msn.com. Help us build our USA Palma Team for 2007! ■

USA PALMA RIFLE TEAM FOUNDATION

| | | | |
|------------------|------------------|--------------|-------|
| _____ PATRON | \$ 1,000 OR MORE | _____ SILVER | \$ 60 |
| _____ BENEFACTOR | \$ 500 | _____ BRONZE | \$ 35 |
| _____ GOLD | \$ 100 | | |

Each supporter who donates \$35 or more will receive a
USA PALMA RIFLE TEAM FOUNDATION
Donor Support Package

- SHOOTERS CAP with embroidered insignia
- USA PALMA pin, enameled logo 7/8"
- DONOR SUPPORT CARD with an etching of the first Palma Match 1876
- USA PALMA Team Souvenir Program World Championships, August 2007, Ottawa, Canada.

_____ I opt not to receive the Donor Support Package in order to maximize my donation to the Foundation.

I DESIGNATE MY TAX DEDUCTIBLE CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS:

_____ USA PALMA TEAM _____ U21 JUNIOR TEAM _____ USA F-CLASS TEAM
_____ USA VETERANS TEAM _____ USA GOODWILL TEAMS

Public spirited citizens, businesses, clubs, and corporations who wish to contribute to the USA PALMA RIFLE TEAM FOUNDATION may send their donations to:

Palma Promotions, Inc.
Dept NL
P.O. Box 441
Mineral, VA 23117
TEL 540-894-8532
FAX 866-802-1452
davefichtner@adelphia.net
www.palma.org/USA

Make checks payable to:
Palma Promotions, Inc
Donor: _____

Your gift is tax deductible according to IRS regulations



PALMA is a Registered Service
Mark of the National Rifle
Association of America

Join the NRA of America
1-800-672-3888
and subscribe to
Shooting Sports USA

USA PALMA Rifle Team Foundation Renewals

Support the 2007 USA Palma Rifle Team by sending your individual contribution for the USA Palma Rifle Team Foundation to Palma Promotions, Inc.

Use the Coupon in this Newsletter. Rates are the same as for the 2003 Team.

PALMA WEB SITE

Visit the Palma Promotions, Inc.
homepage at

www.palma.org/USA

PALMA PROMOTIONS INC.
P.O. BOX 441
MINERAL, VA 23117