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Making A Mark

Volume 34
Spring 2019

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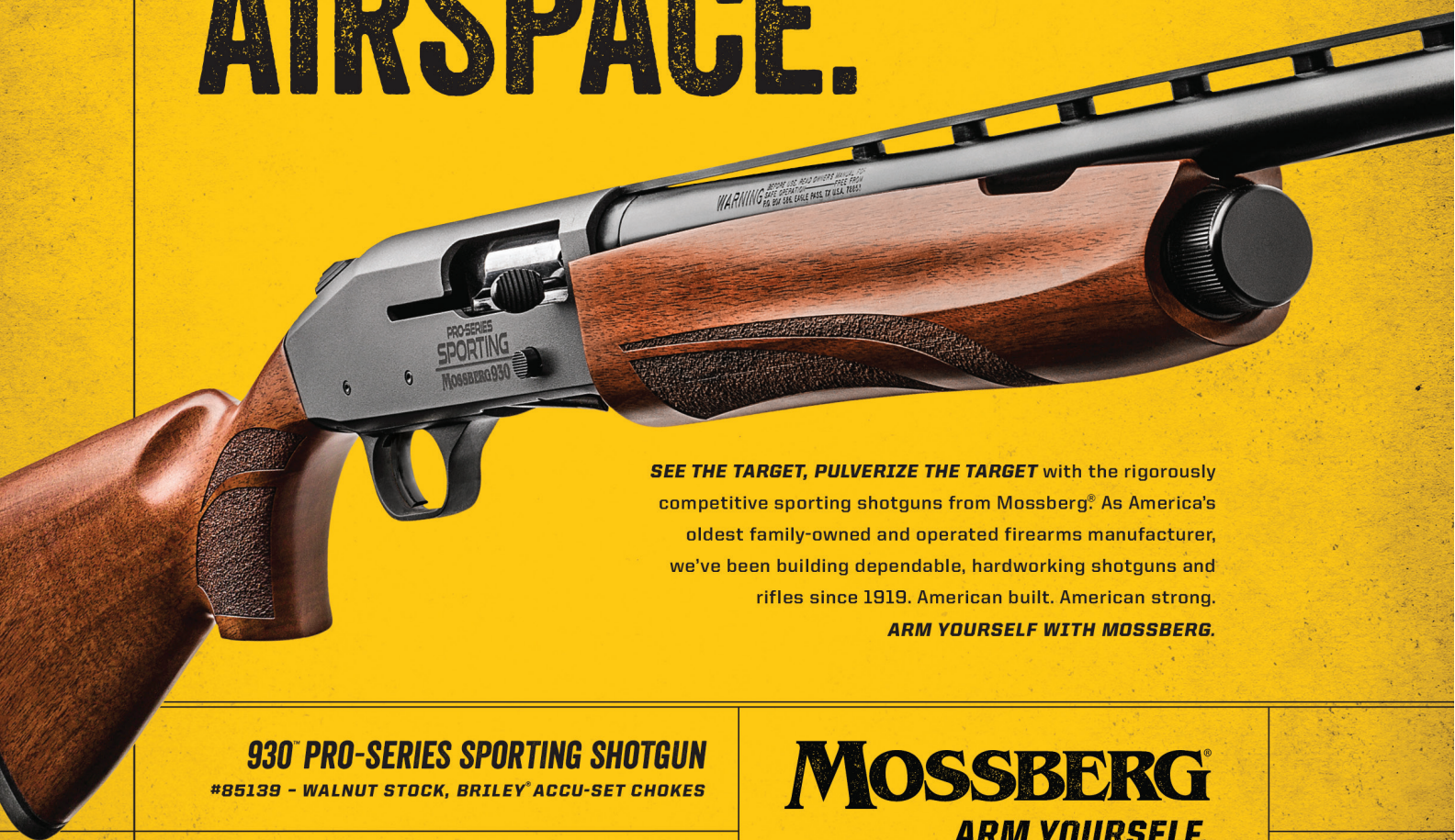
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Starting a Junior in the Shooting Sports

There are two primary things to consider when getting a person started in the shooting sports: safety and fun. The first objective should always be that the new person leaves the place where they were shooting knowing how important safety is and has a basic understanding of how to be safe around guns (firearms, airguns, bows, blowguns, etc.) regardless of their age. The second objective is to make sure they have an enjoyable shooting experience. They had fun while acquiring a sense of accomplishment and excitement.

How to do this? It sounds easy, but is it? What was your first experience like? Was an explanation of the basic safety rules given to you the first time a firearm or airgun was placed in your hands? Did you understand them? Did they show you how to hold and manipulate the gun safely? Did they then watch you to ensure you were doing it correctly? Did they discuss safety at the end of the shooting time as well, especially how to check each gun and safely store it? A

gun that goes home with a loaded chamber packed in a gun case is a disaster waiting to happen! Some of these things are forgotten SO many times. It is also important to realize that if you have a shooter with you who has, or says they have, "shooting experience," it does not mean that they also have extensive and adequate safety training.

Now for the fun part. Always, always start off a new shooter with either an airgun or a firearm chambered in .22 Long Rifle. The firearm or airgun needs to fit their hands and body frame. This applies to adults as well as juniors. Doing this makes it much more likely that their first shooting experience will be fun, with them feeling good about what they did. Also, make sure they can hit the target. Modify the target, distance, or firearm, if they can't. They have to go away saying, "I hit it. The gun felt just right."

A Message From your Editor

The trainer must also make sure there is zero to minimum recoil for their first experience. Have you heard about the guy who took his spouse out for the first time and put a .357 Magnum in her hand; or the father who sat his daughter down behind a .270 Winchester with a scope, and the first shot recoiled back and put a jagged cut across her eyebrow? You just got someone who will not want to shoot and may become a person who is totally against the shooting sports for the rest of their life. What a major catastrophe! We just lost another person who could have accomplished so much.

The bottom line is that the new shooter **MUST** have fun and **MUST** be safe while doing it.

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Andy Fink, Editor-In-Chief

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Send in your story!

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Paralympic Athlete Makes History

By Ashley
Brugnone, CMP
Writer

Back in June, 2018, Moira Antal, 14, of Bealeton, Va., helped make history as she became the first Paralympic athlete to compete at the Civilian Marksmanship Program's (CMP) Three-Position Air Rifle National Championship, held at the Gary Anderson CMP Competition Center at Camp Perry, Ohio.

"It's very fun," she said with a laugh, speaking of competing in air rifle. "It's calming. When I shoot, I zone out and let my mind run off wherever it wants, and I just shoot – that's it."

Moira has arthrogryposis, a congenital joint contracture that has affected her since birth. She's also missing two major muscle groups, a bicep and quadricep on her left side, and through the years has additionally developed arthritis, with 10 surgeries to date.

"Her doctor said she would never walk, but here she is," explained her mother, Wendy, as she looked at Moira and smiled. "She doesn't like to be told, 'No.'"

This year was Moira's first traveling and competing in marksmanship, having joined the sport about two years ago and even becoming qualified as an NRA coach for other Paralympic athletes. During this initial test of real air rifle competition, Moira traveled to and competed in the first-ever Junior Paralympics in Colorado Springs back in April – hand-picked as one of three to participate in the event.



Moira Antal was the first adaptive athlete to compete at the CMP 3P Nationals event.

And, from that trip, she brought home some hardware – one silver and one bronze medal.

She went on to compete in the Virginia Junior Olympic 3PAR State Championship before qualifying for the CMP National Championship in the summer of 2018.

“It’s been a blessing being able to compete here (Camp Perry), especially her first year,” Wendy said. “It being opened up to adaptive shooting – it’s been wonderful.”

Along with setting a first in the range, the trip was also a first for Moira, who had never before been to Camp Perry. She was accompanied by her coach, Matt, as well as Wendy, who evidently walked into a whirlwind of nostalgia as she passed by the buildings on post.

This wasn’t Wendy’s first trip to the legendary grounds of Camp Perry. She actually carries with her a background as a talented highpower competitor, having grown up making the trek, as a teenager, to compete at Camp Perry every year. Now, she serves as both mom and marksmanship mentor to her daughter.

“It’s one of those wonderful sports where you can take people from all different levels of physical abilities, capabilities, all walks of life,” Wendy said as she took in the room – recalling the memories of her own marksmanship days.

Moira, the next generation of a growing competitive shooting family, first held a rifle when she was around 4 years old, an air rifle, since it didn’t have the recoil of some of the more powerful firearms. She showed talent from that first encounter, firing at balloons and hitting



Because of her condition, Moira fires from a seated position.



As an adaptive competitor, Moira was allowed an apparatus when competing.

With motivation and support, Moira plans to return to Nationals.



nearly every one.

The patriarch of the family, Moira's Grandpa Ernie, or "Pop Pop," as he's called, was the president of the Izaak Walton League shooting range near their hometown. He, along with Wendy, was an integral force in getting her involved in the sport, watching her shoot at the range every year when open shooting was offered.

"They both showed me air rifle and different types of shooting," Moira said. "I really liked it from the first time I shot it."

Pop Pop was aware of Moira's physical challenges, but it didn't slow him from teaching her the sport. The way he described it to her – even through they're very different, physically, they can still shoot together and be on the same level.

"That's why I love this – because it's an equal-opportunity sport," said

Moira.

Off of the firing line, Moira enjoys being with her siblings, an older brother, Harley, 21, who is a Navy corpsman, and a sister, Patricia, 16, who Moira lovingly describes as a "theater geek." Moira also takes an interest in drawing and hopes to someday become an engineer who specializes in developing and designing prosthetics and orthotics for animals. Her passion towards animals stems from the love of her two dogs.

"They're my babies," she said with a grin.

As for shooting, Moira says she'll definitely stick with it and will be back to Camp Perry and other ranges again, with mom, Wendy, in tote.

"We're looking forward to seeing how this opens the door for other adaptive athletes," Wendy said. "It's been a beautiful experience. We've really enjoyed it."

Moira encourages others to join in on the world of marksmanship, urging plenty of education before jumping into the complex sport.

"Try it before judging it," she said. "Do some research."

"It's rewarding. It's just nice," she added.

To find out more on Paralympic Shooting opportunities, including its history and current classifications, visit the USA Shooting website at <http://www.usashooting.org/about/paralympicshooting>.

The Civilian Marksmanship Program is a federally chartered 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation. It is dedicated to firearm safety and marksmanship training and to the promotion of marksmanship competition for citizens of the United States. For more information about the CMP and its programs, log onto www.TheCMP.org. ©

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By Serena Juchnowski (20)
Photos By Becky Yackley

Junior Shooters, custom .223 Krieger barrel with 1:7.7 twist yielded a five-shot group of less than 1/2 inch at 100 yards in a semi-auto MSR!

John Krieger, setting up to work on tooling for another machine in the shop.

Two generations of family working to make world-class barrels, paired with world-class service to customers.

Todd House, putting the finishing touches on a Ruger RPR barrel. He is cutting the barrel to final length and crowning it.



Barrel in rack.

Krieger Barrels Inc. produces barrels for competitors looking to excel in disciplines including high power, benchrest, PRS, tactical, and long range, among others. Through both my personal experience with Krieger Barrels as well as through Junior Shooters, I have come to see Krieger not as “just a company” but as a family dedicated “to making the best barrels we can which hopefully are the best ever made,” as John Krieger humbly states.

Junior Shooters Magazine’s test of a Krieger 28” 1:7.7 twist .223 fluted barrel yielded a five-shot group smaller than a half-inch at 100 yards. These results speak for themselves, living up to Krieger’s reputation.

John Krieger started Krieger Barrels in 1982, inspired by his work since childhood with his father’s machine shop business and his insatiable interest in shooting and “pestering” local gunsmiths throughout his boyhood. As an adult and competitive shooter, his friendship with famed barrel-maker “Boots” Obermeyer proved significant to his entering the barrel-making business.

For the past twenty-some years John Krieger’s son, Mark, has been working with John to carry Krieger Barrels into the next generation.

He is aided in this endeavor by his sister, Mona. Over the years, Mark has learned the craft as well as proved his dedication to maintaining Krieger’s commitment to absolute excellence. The family accomplishes this not just by machining but through customer service, aided by the unique personal touch only such a family can provide.

John Krieger noted that what sets Krieger apart from the competition is “the quality of our barrels” as well as “trying as much as humanly possible to keep every customer happy.” Customer service is especially important considering that “The biggest and most consistent problem barrel makers face is steel. Steel is not uniform in chemistry, hardness, or machinability.” Knowing this and seeking to craft the most accurate barrels possible, Mr. Krieger explained his reasoning for using cut-rifled barrels. “I think that the reason that, on the average, cut rifled barrels shoot better than other methods of rifling is because of the extremely light cuts we take. Our cut is about 1/40th of the thickness of a sheet of paper, so the cutter hardly notices the variations in the steel resulting in very uniform dimensions and twist.”

Krieger uses both computerized

riflers and Pratt & Whitney Hydraulic riflers (P&W), the latter of which, though with some upgrades and modifications, have been in use since World War II. The machines certainly have a rich history, but are not present just for nostalgia. Mr. Krieger pointed out that “The world record smallest group ever fired in competition was our barrel rifled on a P & W rifler.”

Team Krieger competitor Becky Yackley commented not only on the riflers but also on the personal aspect of barrel manufacturing. “The reason they are a valuable part of the process in making our barrels is because the ability to machine through steel is as much art as industry. The ‘feel’ that the machinist gets in feedback from a machine that his hands are running and his ears are hearing...this is all part of the art of making a barrel. It’s not a ‘set the numbers and walk away while a machine makes a part’ kind of barrel. It’s a human being working with and through a machine to create not just an accurate barrel, but a piece of art.”

By shooting a Krieger Barrel, one is not only investing in accuracy and precision but also in a family, a tradition, and in the preservation of an often under-appreciated craft. ©

Dillon 650 Reload

By Caleb Hamilton (15)



Caleb, following the instructions for the powder measure.

My dad started teaching me how to reload rifle ammunition on an RCBS Rock Chucker reloader. It was good for making a few rounds of rifle or pistol ammo. We only needed enough reloaded cartridges to shoot at the range on the weekend. I was not competing and could get by with just enough ammo to hit the target and be happy.

When I joined Junior Shooters, things changed quickly. Junior Shooters is all about serious shooting for accuracy, but also to develop self-control, discipline and sportsmanship. Junior Shooters also gets the opportunity to test-fire new products from the best firearms manufacturers in the country. That makes for lots of time spent on the range, shooting many types of guns and using new accessories, which requires a lot of ammunition.

Dillon Precision Products stepped up to the call for a better method of reloading. The Junior Shooters



Installing the powder measure lever.

Shooting Club and Junior Shooters magazine received a new Dillon XL 650 reloader for trial and testing. The XL 650 is a multiple-stage progressive loader that comes in a box with three instruction manuals. The manual I chose to use first is a full-color “Get Ready to Reload!” label. “It’s easy to assemble your New XL 650 Reloader” is what the label said. Although there are something like 35 steps to assemble the machine, it really was not hard, but it did take time and careful attention to the details. I don’t want to bore you with every step to assemble the XL 650, but I would like to point out some features I liked and one or two I didn’t like.

I did like the full-color instructions which showed clear illustrations as to the assembly of each part. Mounting the XL 650 on a strong and solid workbench

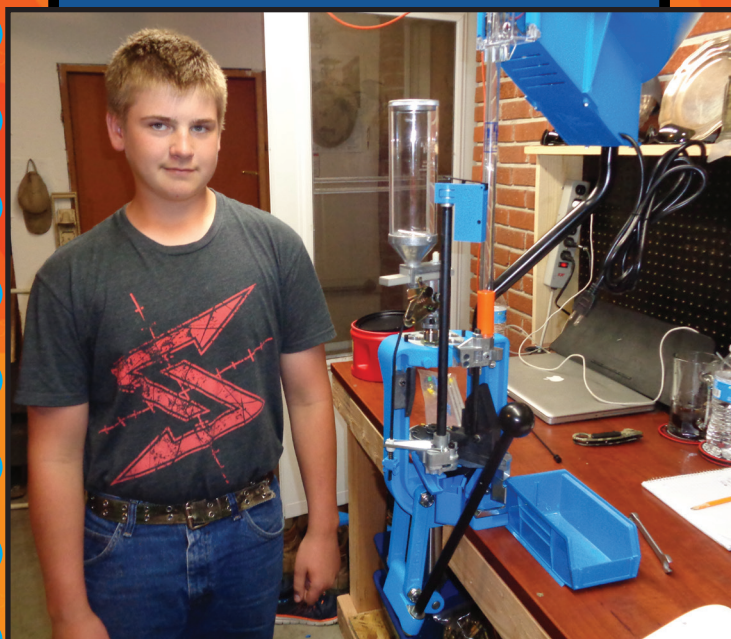
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AZINGA!



Adjusting the die.

is a must. One thing I didn't like, our test model did not come with the Dillon Precision Strong mount accessory. I suggest you consider adding the mount to your equipment. My dad helped me set the Dillon XL 650 on a large wood workbench he built. This was difficult because Dad had to modify the top of his bench to make enough clearance for the handle and lower portion of the tool head. Another feature I really like about the XL 650 is the versatility. The case feed plate allows quick changeover from one cartridge type to another. The die can be changed in seconds. Reloading is sped up so that we can now load enough for the whole club to share in the ammunition for the next practice shoot



Happy with the finished product!

or enter a 3-Gun match.

We have loaded a lot of ammunition in a few hours. So far, we have loaded 9 mm Luger and shared it with the members of the club. Our next project will be to load .223 caliber rifle ammunition. My favorite feature of the XL 650 is the case feeder. This makes the reloading much faster and smoother. If you want a great reloader that is fast, accurate, and easy to use, get a Dillon 650. ©

South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association

Youth Pheasant Hunt 2018

By Alexander Mrosko (17)



Alex aiming at a pheasant .

The South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association Youth Pheasant Hunt is a great way to introduce new hunters like myself to hunting. South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association (SCSA) is a shooting and hunting club in Medina, Ohio. I am lucky to live relatively close to a place that offers a youth pheasant hunt as SCSA does. For the longest time, I only did target shooting such as Civilian Marksmanship Program Matches at Camp Perry and United States Practical Shooting Association Matches (USPSA).

My lack of interest and knowledge of hunting came from it not being something that was easily accessible to me. I did not grow up in a household where shooting and hunting were common. When I did convince my family to let me start shooting, I mostly shot rifle and pistol matches with my dad joining me. I joined SCSA's Junior High Power Team in the summer of 2016. It was not until my friend and teammate, Serena, a fellow high-power service rifle competitor, told me about SCSA's annual youth pheasant hunt. SCSA is where practices are held for the junior rifle team. Naturally, I was interested in the opportunity. In my high school, few people ever mention hunting in general, and I had not met anyone there who personally hunted. This fall that



George out in the field.

changed.

Since I had never been hunting before, at first I was very intimidated and nervous. I was not sure what to expect despite reading over the plans for that day. When I arrived at South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association's Chatham Grounds I was greeted by friendly instructors and other people my age who had an interest in hunting. All of the youths and volunteers have different skill levels and interests; some, like me, were mostly shooters, others mostly hunters.

We were given an overview and history of the program as well as a safety briefing before being sent out to the fields. Each field had its own hunting dogs, guides, and enough pheasants for each participant to have chances at two birds. This allows all hunters the possibility to take home up to two birds. Once we got to the fields we were greeted by volunteers, bird dogs, and boxes of pheasants. Shotguns and shells were provided for the hunters to borrow. Some brought their own.

Volunteers set two birds for each hunter. They did this by temporarily putting each bird to sleep by tucking its head under its wing. The birds then wake up and move around before the dog finds them. Once the dog goes on point and finds the bird, a guide will help you get ready for when the bird flies up. You have to be ready because it only takes a few moments and the bird flies away.

The fields were divided by the age of the participants. Being 16, I was on the farthest field from the clubhouse. There were five other kids waiting to hunt in the same field. Each person went out into the field one at a time accompanied by a guide led by



South Cuyahoga Sportsmen's Association

a dog in order to get the proper safety and instruction, and to have the best chance of getting a bird. My friend and teammate, George, went ahead of me. He borrowed a 20-gauge Remington shotgun and he followed the guide and the dog out into the field where the birds were. Before long the dog found a bird. Next thing I know I watch as the bird flies straight up in the air. George takes two shots. The second shot is a perfect hit and the bird goes down! George was one of the first people to get a bird that afternoon.

After a short celebration, I went out. Before long, the dog found a bird. It flew up and I took my two shots. Although I had been practicing for the hunt by shooting trap for a few weeks prior, I missed both times. Getting a bird was a lot harder than I thought. Then, the dog started to sniff on the ground, picking up the scent of another bird. Within 30 seconds the dog was off. It was not long before the dog found another bird. Just as I had done before, I got ready to take another shot at a bird. I waited for the bird to fly up in the air and as it did I fired and missed both shots again.

Even though I did not harvest any birds, I still learned so much about hunting. The amount of patience and experience that is required to become a good hunter is much more than I would have imagined. In addition to learning the skills of how to hunt, I also learned about the birds and how to properly dress a pheasant. I learned respect for the animal as well. I plan on taking a hunter safety course and getting my full hunting license soon, upgrading the apprentice license I currently hold.

The South Cuyahoga Sportsman Association Youth Pheasant Hunt gave me a new love and appreciation for hunting. My experience there gave me a new view and passion for the sport I knew very little about. Though some may not consider my first day pheasant hunting a success, I do. Although I did not take home a bird, the experience and knowledge I gained made the hunt a success to me. I look forward to my first harvest and more adventures in the future! ©



Alex and George after the hunt.

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By Ashley Rumble (17)

My First SHOT

Ever since I started shooting and writing, I've wanted to go to SHOT Show. But, I had to be 16 in order to go. Since my birthday falls right in the middle of the show, I was out of luck last year. This was finally my year.

For those who may not know, SHOT Show is the firearms industry trade show held every 3rd week of January in Las Vegas, Nevada put on by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF). It is the end-all-be-all of trading shows for shooting sports goods.

It is the place where everyone in the industry shows off what they are selling and showcases new products. There are over 1,000 exhibits covering everything from military, law enforcement, camping, competition, and hunting. If it has to do with firearms, a person could probably find it at SHOT Show. With rooms that span a quarter-mile across, I had more than plenty to see.

As I mentioned before, anyone going needs to be at least 16. But, they also need to be connected to the industry somehow. They won't let just anyone go. For me, I was a

member of the media. Of the 60,000 or more people that attend, about 2,500 are media. The rest is made up from retailers, reps, and others.

My planning for this started about a year ago. I knew I'd be old enough, so it was in the books already. But Las Vegas is a place neither my dad or I had ever been to, so there was some work to do. A successful trip of any kind needs lots of planning.

It's also a long drive from where I live in Boise, Idaho to Vegas, about nine hours. I was soon to learn why most people choose to fly. The drive is the definition of boring! Miles and miles without a turn in sight, and nothing but sagebrush to look at. I know that the country is more than pine trees and mountains, but it was a long drive. We had to take some heavy items with us, so it was the best option.

Once in town, things picked up steam fast. It was good that we had a chance to sit down during the drive there, because we wouldn't get much of a chance to do that for a couple of days. Once checked in and luggage dumped, we needed to make our way to the Sands where the SHOT show

was being held. We took the shuttle from our hotel to the Sands the first time and decided it was for the best that we drove ourselves after that. Big bus and tight traffic.

Once there, we met up with Dave Furney who helps Andy Fink a lot and he showed us where to get our press pass. I know that there are over 2,000 people from about every type of media there, but to get a press pass was very cool to me. The show has a separate room for the press to gather during the day. There are places to sit and work. There is also an area set apart for people to file their stories during the day. It was late in the afternoon by the time we got there, so things were winding down. Fellow writer and shooter Ben Moody, his parents, Andy, Dave, my dad and I went over the game plan for the next day. Andy brought us up to speed on what he would like to have us do and when to meet up. Though we were there to look at all the new things the industry is coming out with, a lot of it was thanking our sponsors for everything they do for us – very important.

At 8:00 the next morning in the



SHOT Show - 2019

press room, we were waiting for things to kick off at 8:30. Ropes with guards keep everyone out of the display areas before 8:30, but there are still tons of people in the halls waiting. There are three floors covering 630,000 sq. ft. of space filled with companies showing off their items. To put that in a little perspective, a football field is 53,000 sq. ft. So, you can fit almost 12 football fields into the area SHOT Show covers. A fact sheet in the media center pointed out that if a person wanted to visit all 2,400 hundred booths during the show, they could only spend 12 seconds at each booth and walk 12 miles. With all the stuff to look at, it would be hard to do; 2,400 booths of guns, gun parts, gun people . . . yeah, not going to happen.

Armed with copies of Junior Shooters magazine to give to people who may be interested in who we are, we were off like a shot at 8:30. My first stop was Tandem Kross. The company and I have a friendship starting a few years ago when I tested a Buckmark trigger they had just come out with. I hadn't seen

them in a couple of years and was looking forward to saying hello and catching up. Finding them turned out to be a challenge. Every booth has a number. There is a system that goes with it and it takes a little time to get it down. Lots of wandering and wondering if we were just getting ourselves even more lost. Anyway, after getting lost and sidetracked a few times, we found Bryan and Jake there working hard showing off their products, but we were able to catch up and see what was new. They have a new part to help the receiver return on the Buckmark which is my go-to pistol. They also showed me a new item called the Advantage that goes on the 10/22 to allow the shooter to cycle the rifle with the left hand. No reaching over or modifying the receiver. It just screws into the rail mounts. I can't wait to try them. My two Rimfire race guns are already "tandemized" a lot and they'll get better with these new parts I'm sure.

Now it was time to hit the trail. A person really must pick and choose what they want to look at here. With few exceptions (TK), none of the sponsors had met me. So, Andy set

me up with Ben Moody, who has been to the show before, and off we went to discover and meet. Ben knows what he is doing, having been to SHOT Show a few times before me. I learned a lot in a short time from him on how to greet people and talk with them. After a couple of hours with Ben, I needed a break, so we headed back to the pressroom to regroup.

After a short break and lunch, my dad and I headed back out. The amount of people at the event is beyond what I could get my head around. It wasn't just the number, but how fast everyone is moving. An admirable feat considering the details. The Sands knows their stuff if they can keep that many people moving full-on all day and not be jammed up everywhere. The aisles were wide and most everyone was mindful of others. It wasn't stressful in that way at all.

At 5:00, the show closes for the day. For Andy and Dave, they had been there and on the floor since Tuesday. After my one day and their third, I didn't know what was keeping them going. I was exhausted! But,



SHOT SHOW

we were in Vegas for the first time and there were things to see. There is more to this town than the casinos and, believe it or not, SHOT Show. Those may be the things everyone thinks of, but if you love food, this town is for you, too. If you can think it, you'll probably find it being served someplace. We ended up at a Cajun place, a first for me, and it didn't disappoint.

Friday the 25th dawned as my 17th birthday, and what a way to celebrate, getting back to SHOT show. I was more prepared Friday, having learned a few things the day before. It's a pretty sharp learning curve, figuring out how to optimize your time and energy. It was also the last day, so we needed to make sure we completed the tasks laid out. But I found myself more relaxed and ready for it all the second day. The crowds had thinned a bit, too, which made getting around easier.

I found myself looking at several knife booths and talking with them about what, how, and why they made certain things. Spyderco, Buck,

Gerber, Leatherman, and Swiss Army were all there. They all had something to show me. Swiss Army even gave me a wallet multitool for my birthday which was very nice of them.

A person can find it all here; from the most basic .22, the trickiest black gun, and even a \$50,000 shotgun. Yes, you read that right – burlwood stock with very detailed engraving, made in England by some of the best craftsmen around. What is in between is almost unlimited. Everything was impressive in its own way. I visited Altamont Stocks and spoke with them about the two stocks they manufacture, and I use. We even saw the Cody Firearms Museum there. They have a huge collection that is showcased on Facebook a lot. CZ Shotguns was a stop to make. I had tested their All American and loved it. I wanted to see what else they had and thank them for a great product. The people there were great and really showed me a lot. You want to see optics? Pick a brand. Boots? Yep. Sunglasses?

Many to choose from. It's a good thing that nothing is for sale here or I'd have been broke in five minutes. My ski instructor's income wouldn't go far.

Things began winding down in the afternoon and we went around to thank some people again before we left. The show was over at 3:00 and everyone who had displays immediately began taking them down. The convention game moves fast in Vegas and there is always something else waiting to start. Around back, there were forklifts and Hysters waiting to get in and start packing up. No time is wasted.

SHOT Show didn't let me down. It was everything I had hoped for. I was glad to see some people and thank them. It was fun to see the new products and be introduced to some that were new to me. Once my sore feet feel better, it'll be time to think about testing some of the stuff I saw. I can't wait to get my hands on it all and get busy with it! ©



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From Steel Targets to Olympic Pistol



By Eliot Jardines

Team LoCo Motion, a Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP) team has set out to prove speed and precision are not mutually exclusive. In addition to SASP, the team recently became a USA Shooting club and began exploring the world of Olympic pistol. While all team members will be introduced to the Olympic discipline of 25-meter Sport Pistol, a new competitive Olympic squad was formed with athletes who had achieved the NRA expert pistol rating and qualified for the SASP All-Scholastic Team.



Members of Team LoCo Motion at the Virginia Junior Olympic State Championship (L to R: Ethan Jardines, Jack Bright, Lauren Creese, Adam Jardines and Cori Whisenant)



While the basics of marksmanship learned in SASP carry over, there are many differences between the two sports. SASP competitors shoot two-handed and facing the target, while in Olympic sport pistol the athlete shoots one-handed and stands perpendicular to the target. Sport pistol is rimfire only and has two stages - a precision stage where athletes take their time to be as accurate as possible, and a rapid-fire stage where you have 3 seconds per shot. In a sport pistol match, athletes shoot 30 rounds each in the precision and rapid-fire stages.

Team LoCo Motion's Olympic squad had practiced sport pistol only three times before

Team LoCo Motion is a SASP team that also affiliated as a USA Shooting club



the Virginia Junior Olympic State Championship (JOSC), but still managed to post some respectable scores and have a great deal of fun. Contrary to popular belief, you don't have to have an expensive Pardini Olympic pistol to compete in sport pistol. Lauren Creese, age 12, took 3rd place in the women's division at the VA JOSC while shooting a Ruger Mark IV.

SASP is a feeder program for USA Shooting's pistol disciplines much the same way that the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) feeds into USA Shooting shotgun disciplines. In an effort to increase the number of teams participating in Olympic pistol, SASP and USA Shooting will be running a Junior Olympic Development Camp at the Olympic Training Center in

Colorado Springs in the coming months. Team LoCo Motion is hoping to have some athletes and coaches selected to attend the development camp. Our athletes are already looking forward to next year's sport pistol season and as their coach, I'm excited to see how their new precision shooting skills help them in SASP competitions! ©



SCHOLASTIC ACTION SHOOTING PROGRAM



SASP teams can compete in both pistol (centerfire and rimfire) and rimfire rifle matches.



SASP uses the discipline of speed shooting on steel targets, which is unique to our program, combining the best features of other disciplines to allow athletes to practice and participate in exciting matches with less specialized equipment.

We hope you, your school or your shooting club will consider becoming part of SASP.

Questions?

Rick Leach
National Director, SASP
N65W7335 Cleveland St
Cedarburg, WI 53012-1856
262.894.4284
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<http://sssfonline.org>

Bill Perkins

Regional Field Representative,
Southwest Region
(520) 975-5170
bperkins@sssfonline.com

Sign up for our e-newsletter – Range Time!

SASP teams can compete in matches that are held locally, state, regionally, and nationally, plus we have a virtual match series that runs year-round.



FAST FACTS



JOIN SASP

PROGRAM GOALS:

- Teach the safe and responsible handling and use of firearms
- Provide a supportive team-based environment using the shooting sports as the catalyst for teaching life lessons and skills that emphasize positive character traits and citizenship values
- Introduce young shooters to a sport that can be enjoyed for a lifetime, one that offers a level playing field, and one that all family members can enjoy together

MISSION STATEMENT:

The Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation is an educational-athletic organization that exists to introduce school-age youths to the shooting sports and to facilitate their continued involvement by providing, promoting, and perpetuating opportunities to safely and enjoyably participate and compete in a high-quality, team-based sport led by trained adult coaches focused on enhancing the personal growth and development of their athletes.

VISION STATEMENT:

To continue to be recognized and respected as the leader in the youth development shooting sports programs.

PROGRAM SPONSOR:

The Scholastic Shooting Sports Foundation (SSSF) is the National Governing Body (NGB) for youth speed shooting and the Scholastic Action Shooting Program (SASP). SASP was started by SSSF in 2012.

PROGRAM SCOPE:

The SASP offers participation in speed shooting using pistols and .22 rifles.

PROGRAM FOCUS:

TEAMS! The SASP is a TEAM-BASED program, focusing on youth development. Participation in SASP should be fun, and there is no place for a win-at-all-costs attitude.

TEAM SUPERVISION:

An adult Volunteer Head Coach leads each team. Volunteer State Advisors provide support for in-state activities and support to their Volunteer Head Coaches and Assistant Coaches. Full-time Directors of Development coordinate the program, and they are assisted by National Coach Trainers and the National Training Team. National Coach Trainers are responsible for coach development and training.

REGISTRATION FEES:

The registration fee for State Advisors, Head Coaches, Assistant Coaches, and Adult Volunteers is \$30.00. This fee covers the cost of liability insurance and a portion of the cost of a background check. All adults working directly with SASP athletes must be registered with the SSSF. To be covered by SSSF liability insurance, a volunteer must be registered with the National Program.

The membership for each registered athlete, including Collegiate, is \$20.00. The fee covers the cost of insurance and awards. All athletes must be registered by their Head Coach.

PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY:

Students in grades 6-12 are eligible for the Intermediate and Senior Divisions in the pistol and rifle disciplines. Students in grades 5 and below are eligible for the Rookie Division in the rifle discipline. There is no age limit for those enrolled as full-time students in the Collegiate Division. College athletes must be enrolled and attending an accredited college or university. All athletes must be academically eligible to participate in their school's extracurricular sports program.

Scholastic Action Shooting Program

www.sssfonline.org
N65W7335 Cleveland St
Cedarburg, WI 53012-1856
262.894.4284
rleach@ssfonline.com



MAKING A DIFFERENCE in My Life



By Jordan Walton (15)

Jordan shooting a 9mm pistol in SASP competition

is pretty great. My local shooting team consists of all guys, which sort of sucked at first because I was the only girl. Over time however, I have gotten a lot closer with all of them, and I like to think of our team as a family. We cheer each other on and help each other out when we need it. Whether it's helping load mags or cheering each other up after a rough run.

Shooting has always been a part of my life. I grew up shooting a pink daisy BB gun in my grandparent's backyard, and going hunting with my dad and brother. I always had a growing interest towards the shooting sports since my brother started shooting trap, pistol and rifle. He got to go to competitions with

One of the best and worst memories I have of the sport is when I was at my first SASP Nationals in 2017. I was about halfway done shooting for the day, and was on the stage Focus, which was one of the most challenging stages for me then. I shot two rounds and then everything went downhill. After every round I



Jordan, with Max Michael, Sig Sauer's team captain and national champion.

his team and seemed to have a lot of fun doing so. In 7th grade I was introduced to the Scholastic Action Shooting Sports (SASP), and that was the first time I ever shot a 9mm pistol. Since then I have fallen in love with the sport. Even though it takes a lot of hard work, commitment and perseverance, it's 100% worth it.

I was used to sports that were separated between boys and girls, but the shooting sports are different. Boys and girls shot together and were on the same team, which I think

shot I had a malfunction and had to tap, roll, and rack every time just to get to the next shot. I had more than 20 malfunctions and was struggling to finish the stage. On the verge of crying, I finished my last string and thanked the R.O. and left the line crying, but trying not to look like a fool. Throughout that stage I was just focused on getting through it, but didn't notice that my team and coaches continued to cheer me on and help me through it. My coach later came up to me and said, "If that

were me out there, I would be crying and pissed off, but you're staying strong." That hit me hard by showing me that even when you don't realize it, people are supporting you when you need it most. Shooting will always have a very important place in my life, it has changed me and my life for the better. I have a sport that I love and am good at, and is a sport that anyone can succeed in with a little hard work, commitment, and perseverance.

Not only is the sport just about

Jordan shooting a 9mm Pistol Caliber Carbine (PCC).



Jordan, with two of her friends.



competing but they also give back to the community. I was lucky enough to be able to help with a trap shoot for the benefit of Healing Patriots, which takes veterans and first responders on fishing trips. We held raffles and a fun shoot for people to come out help raise money for Healing Patriots. I am excited about helping out with more charity shoots to improve the community and give back. ©

“Shooting has always been a part of my life.”

When Jordan isn't shooting she is either playing volleyball or soccer

NSSF Launches Exciting

By Jennifer L.S. Pearsall, NSSF Director, Public Relations

LET'S GO HUNTING

APPRENTICESHIP WHERE TO HUNT

All about
HUNTING

From small game and upland birds to big game, waterfowl and even the creatures that define the term “top of the food chain,” hunting offers a priceless bond with the natural world, food for the table and a welcome respite from the world’s daily grind.

#LETSGOHUNTING

GET STARTED IN HUNTING

In the Fall 2018 issue of *Junior Shooter*, we told you about our new website for target shooters, LetsGoShooting.org. If you’re enjoying that site and you’re also a hunter—and especially if you’d like to learn about hunting—we’ve now added a sister site dedicated to that pursuit, LetsGoHunting.org.

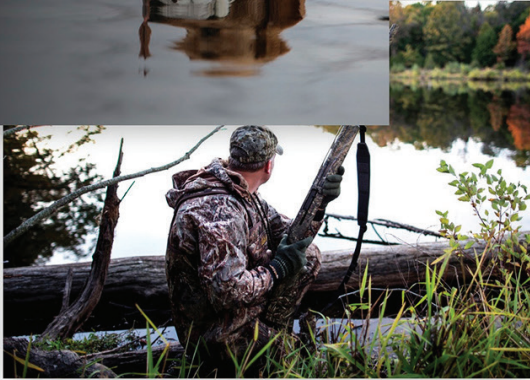
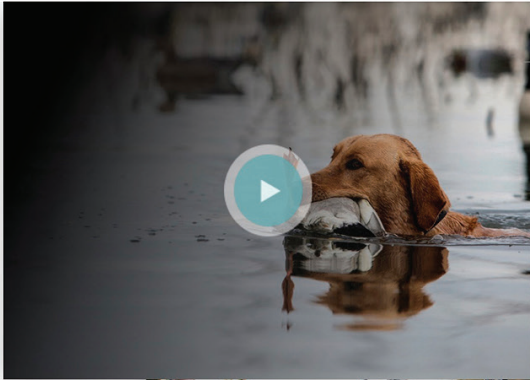
LetsGoHunting.org was

created to be the go-to resource for all things firearms safety, hunter safety and the pursuit of game. In the upper left-hand corner of the home page you’ll find the three-bar menu icon. Clicking on that reveals a short drop-down menu. One of the available selections there is “Resources,” and a slide to the right lets you choose between

articles or videos—and oh! what a great library you’ll find in either.

Want to learn how to read the wind better for your deer hunt? There’s a video for that. Never been upland bird hunting and wondering how it all works? Take in the video of a family-and-friends outing—complete with some very happy and

g Resource for Hunters



Hunting

ACTIVITIES



Waterfowl

Four flyways, colorful species small and large, the art of the decoy and the thrill of a Labrador retriever leaping over the boat's bow to make an enthusiastic retrieve of goose or duck make waterfowling one of the most thrilling hunting sports around. It's also one of the oldest—drawings of waterfowl have been found in Ice Age caves, Egyptian tombs and even the artwork of B.C.-era Peru. America's earliest settlers from "across the pond" found their new home in the East boasted a nearly unlimited supply of ducks, geese and swans—good eating for starving Colonials.

LEARN MORE

Find a preserve

WHERE TO HUNT

Wingshooting

Hunting preserves—private, regulated properties that stock game animals—are a great resource for hunters. They provide a controlled environment and an increased chance for success. Big-game preserves often include one-on-one guiding, great for novices, while upland bird preserves are a favorite for training young bird dogs.

WHERE TO HUNT



enthusiastic birddogs—for pheasants in the Great Plains. And then there are the wealth of videos to help you perfect your shot in real-world field conditions, such as shooting from supports, binocular use, scope magnification tips and

staying accurate at distance across varying terrain, to name just a few. All are instantly shareable via Facebook, Twitter and Reddit, and a quick-copy link makes sharing via other social media platforms, IM or email fast and easy.

If you prefer to read about all that's going on in the world of hunting, then choose the "Articles" selection in that same drop-down "Resources" option. "Do's and Don'ts of Public Land Hunting," "The Rifle Cartridge Name Game,"

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Hunting Basics And Tips

- 1 Hunting safety is the first priority**
Watch a safety video or take a hunter education course to learn more.
- 2 Read hunting laws and regulations**
Hunting laws and regulations vary from state to state. [Learn more.](#)
- 3 Wear proper hunting gear**
The more comfortable you are, the longer you'll hunt and the better the chances for success.
- 4 Essential hunting equipment**
Check out [where to buy](#) hunting firearms and ammo for your next trip.
- 5 Go with a friend**
[Invite someone](#) new hunting. Check out the [apprenticeship hunting program](#).

Obtaining A Hunting License

Hunting licenses can be purchased at various places, including local firearms retailers and angler supply stores, as well as directly from the local wildlife management departments online. States usually require hunters to take a **hunter education course** before they take to the woods, but many make exceptions if the hunter will be accompanied by a fully licensed and experienced hunter through an **apprenticeship program**.

[VIEW STATE-BY-STATE REGULATIONS](#)



“Ground Blind Safety for Deer and Turkey Hunting” and “Western Big-Game Tag Draws: Separating Fact from Fiction,” are just a few of the highly informative articles you’ll find there. And don’t forget to check out fantastic wild game recipes, such as “Venison Backstrap Carne Asada, from Michael Pendley.

While many, even most of you

reading this are already active hunters, we know there are many out there who are interested in all the sport has to offer but don’t know how to get involved. Perhaps they don’t know someone who hunts, or maybe they’re just too shy to ask. The “Apprenticeship” title in the upper right-hand corner of the page is here to help. Click on it and you’ll find a U.S. map highlighting all

the states currently offering hunter apprenticeship programs in which those interested in learning about hunting can go afield with an experienced, licensed hunter without having to go through the full hunter education program first. It’s a kind of “try-before-you-buy” kind of thing, and it’s a great way to connect hunters old and new.



Share your experience

#LETSGOHUNTING



letsgohuntingusa
@letsgohuntingusa

Here are a few upland hunting safety reminders that will help ensure your next day in the field is a safe and enjoyable experience.
#LetsGoHunting

#LETSGOSHOOTING

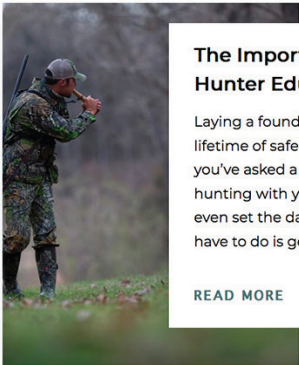


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RETAILERS: Making your store security visible to all has benefits. Read why in 'Security Camera System and Public-View Monitors' #OperationSecureStore



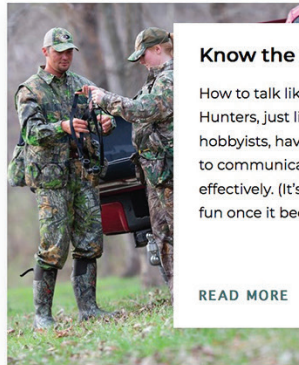
LATEST NEWS IN HUNTING



The Importance of Hunter Education

Laying a foundation for a lifetime of safe hunting So, you've asked a friend to go hunting with you, and you've even set the date. Now all you have to do is get your buddy g...

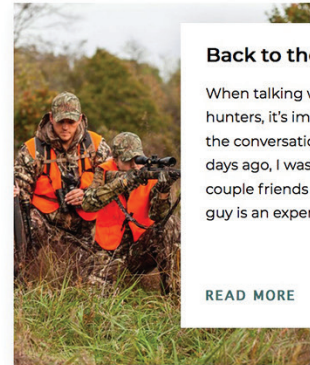
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Know the Lingo

How to talk like a hunter Hunters, just like any other hobbyists, have their own lingo to communicate quickly and effectively. (It's also pretty darn fun once it becomes fluent!) N...

[READ MORE >](#)



Back to the Basics

When talking with prospective hunters, it's important to keep the conversation simple. A few days ago, I was talking with a couple friends at a party. One guy is an experienced deer hu...

[READ MORE >](#)

From there the possibilities are endless. The “Where to Buy” menu connects each user with the retailers in their area who have all the firearms, ammunition and gear they need for a successful hunt. “Where to Hunt” gives you an interactive U.S. map that instantly connects you to the game agency websites for anywhere in the country you’re

considering hunting, providing you with instant access to those game laws, public lands and licensing information and even application forms.

We encourage all Junior Shooter readers to visit LetsGoHunting.org, discover all it has to offer and share it with friends and family. If you’re already a hunter, share it, too, with someone you think

might want to have as much fun as you do in the field and taking part in this great tradition. Hunting and target shooting offer year-round enjoyment for everyone—and that’s just what LetsGoShooting.org and LetsGoHunting.org are all about. ©

MOSSBERG MVP PRECISION

By Brian Hamilton, Caleb Hamilton (15), and Kaden Barney (16)



The stock is very ergonomic and is completely adjustable

BRIAN HAMILTON

From time to time, Andy Fink asks for help to test or sight-in various pistols, rifles or any other goodies that he might have. At this time, I was asked to sight-in and test the Mossberg MVP Precision Rifle in 6.5 Creedmoor. Might I add that it was love at first sight. The overall design just blew me away. It's sleek with a sturdy frame and a multiple-position stock that makes for a perfect fit. The barrel is pre-threaded for your choice of muzzle break. The over-sized bolt handle is a great added feature that is topped off with a fully adjustable trigger.

Once I made a few adjustments with the stock, it was time to try it out. The design of this rifle didn't let me down. It shot as good as it looked and left me with the "I must have one!" feeling. I was happy to see the shot pattern overlapping; this thing is a nail driver right out of the box! With each shot I made, I was able to stay on target and follow up with the next without hesitation. In my opinion, the Mossberg MVP Precision is an excellent choice whether you are varmint hunting or precision shooting.



The Leupold Mark IV, with a custom turret for the 6.5 Creedmoor Hornady 140 grain ELD bullet, was installed using a 30mm skeletonized WARNER mount.



A custom turret from Leupold was also ordered and installed on the Leupold Mark IV that was used with the rifle.

N RIFLE IN 6.5 CREEDMOOR

The Mossberg MVP Precision rifle in 6.5 Creedmoor is an outstanding long-range varmint and competition rifle that easily shoots single-hole groups at 100 yards!

CALEB HAMILTON

Like my father, I am a big fan of Mossberg and the Mossberg's 6.5 Creedmoor just made me fall in love with Mossberg all over again. The 6.5 is very popular with long-range and target shooters as well as hunters because of the flat shooting, its performance, and low recoil. The design of this rifle is beautiful; it is an aggressive, but good-looking rifle. It has a 1:8 twist rate, 5R rifling with a 20- or 22-inch barrel with a threaded barrel for a suppressor or a muzzle brake. Five of the models feature a threaded barrel with a protective thread cap included.

Mossberg had a great idea adding the slim handguard design on the aluminum chassis to help make this a tack driver. Another added feature is the LUTH-AR MBA-3 adjustable stock with a 10-round mag Magpul p-mag magazine. There is a 20 moa picatinny rail setup for the scope of your choice allowing you to reach out to 1,000 yards with no problem.

I was impressed with the trigger, it has a smooth crisp pull, and I heard the ring of the 700-yard steel every time I shot at it. Its matte blue finish on that well-designed frame makes for a very good-looking rifle. The forestock has a good design as well; it is slim and easy to grab if you shoot offhand. This long-range rifle is a great gun and I would recommend it if you are looking for a long-range rifle.



Caleb is thrilled to be shooting this super-fine Mossberg long-range rifle!