

For more information or to volunteer, contact Hugh Morrison 294-8321 or Sandy Rigg 933-0473. We will have a brief meeting following the April General Meeting in the Education Bldg on Th. 4/19, and hope you will join us.

Grab your shooting bag and lend a hand as we recognize our servicemen and women who serve in the Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marines, and Navy.

In other news: The ARC will soon offer the NRA course Personal Protection Outside the Home. We anticipate high interest in the class so if you plan on being one of the first to take the class, keep an eye on the schedule and sign up quick. (From the home page, click on Classes, then on "Download the Class Schedule and Fees."

We need instructors to help complete the 2007 Schedule. We are always looking for people with a variety of experience to help teach classes and you don't necessarily need official certifications. If you're able to help out, we'd love to hear from you.

Course Dates

Concealed Handgun Classes - Apr 14, 19 & 28
May 12, 20, 24

Students must register through www.chl-texas.com

NRA: Range Safety Officer – Apr 15

Range Orientation – 3rd Saturday/month

Check the website for full class listings:
<http://austintrifleclub.org>.

Contact education@austintrifleclub.org for more information

~Sandy Rigg, Education Director

Austin Rifle Club Rifle Silhouette Seminar Match Program

**Third Sunday of each Month through April
Range D**

9:00 Range open for Practice
9:30 Bandito Match \$10:00/team,
3-man team shoot off at 100-m
10:00 Guest Speaker:
April 15th: Mark Pharr = The Mental
Game
Note: State Small-Bore Match April 21-22.
11:00 Practice with Instructor feedback
12:00 Lunch provided (\$2.00/person)
1:00 Match Begins: (\$5:00/gun, 3 relays)
NRA Standard Rifle

NRA Hunter Rifle

NRA Air Rifle (Single Category with new
resetable targets)

Club Match (3/8 size animals with Iron
sights or 4X)

RSVP: riflesilhouette@austintrifleclub.org

TRADING POST: This space is available to ARC members to sell, swap, or buy stuff. E-mail your ad to newsletter@austintrifleclub.org or call the newsletter editor at the number listed in the [Club Officers](#) table below.

HUNTING ABROAD (Part 1)

Let me start this by saying I'm one of those guys who never thought I'd be hunting in another country, much less carrying my own firearms to do it. The idea of all the security, paperwork, etc. was a big turn-off to such notions. I'm here to tell you that once you take that first step and get your feet wet in international hunting, you'll want to do it again. When it was all said and done, a group of friends and I had gone to Argentina and shared an experience we'll remember for a lifetime.

The group I went with is part of a group I get together with annually for the opening day of the Texas South Zone dove season. This is something I got involved with in 1995, but it had been going for some time prior to my involvement. The group has evolved over the years as our careers move us around the country. Those that can make it have come from as far away as the east coast and Seattle, not so much for the birds but for the camaraderie we experience in this event.

Several years ago, I forget exactly when, a couple of us started talking about Argentina. One member of our group, Travis, had already been on several shoots in both Central and South America. Ever since I've been going to the south Texas opener, Travis has been the coordinator of the events. He was pretty good at it, making sure everyone had something they were responsible for bringing to contribute to the meals, and we had some good meals. It was inevitable the he would end up the focal point for this event.

He and I started looking into the options, checking out different outfitters and weather patterns. There are several good outfitters for this trip, but we finally settled on an outfitter Travis had used satisfactorily on other trips. We also decided on the month of May, as it was the second driest month of the year and the climate was very agreeable, being their fall and going on winter. We actually came close to making the trip in either 2001 or 2002, but trying to get this group of

people together on schedules for an international trip can be like herding cats. I had to fall out myself due to family issues. We never gave up on it, though. At an excellent wingshooting experience in Uvalde, the subject was brought up again. It turned out we finally had the members in the group who would step forward and do it, thus we got our numbers high enough to get a lodge to ourselves. Seven people didn't really meet their requirements, but this being the 'slow' season for dove in Argentina, they were able to accommodate this request.

The firearms paperwork was not that difficult. Some passport photos, copies of passport and firearms paperwork were all that was needed. A trip to the airport and a local photo shop, a few minutes at a copier, then a trip to the local FedEx took care of it all.

Don't be intimidated by what you might hear or suspect about the guys at the airport. I walked right in, presented my firearms, and handed them the paperwork (downloaded from the ATF website and prepared in advance). They did their thing, stamped it and I was on the way out. They were very courteous and professional about their work, acting as if they worked for me.....wait a minute, they do! Don't lose this paperwork. Make multiple copies and keep some in your luggage, carry-ons, on your person, whatever it takes. Have the original as well. Without this paper, getting your firearms through US Customs is going to be a trying experience.

Preparations started with getting everyone in contact with our guide service. From there, they sent out a list of documents they would need with a note to get it to them no later than a certain date, about a month in advance of our trip. A portion of the funds was also due with this paperwork to cover their expenses in case someone backed out. Regarding the guide, I can't overstress the importance of doing your homework here. We were fortunate to have a group member with considerable experience at this, and upon arriving at Cordoba's airport were able to witness the anxiety of another group whose guide was not as meticulous as ours. Get the details of how things go down, especially on arrival. Other things to look at are what the package price includes: shells, license, lodging, meals, etc. If comparing shells, know the price. It was \$10/box in 2005, and I went through 141 boxes. That's not a typo, and this is the slow season!

I managed to come up with reasons to purchase a few new items for this trip. Fortunately, my wife fell for.....I mean, agreed with every reason I gave her. The most expensive of these was a Beretta 390 to act as backup to my 391, both in 20 ga. Although none of

us usually shop there for our firearms, we found out that Walmart (sorry Joe) happened to have these on a super clearance, so most of us picked up one or two at our local stores at some real bargain prices. Regardless, they were Berettas and all performed as you would expect from a Beretta. The 391, by the way, did come from McBride's in Austin and is a bird-killing machine. They keep statistics down there and of those 141 boxes of shells, Argentina's dove pestilence problem was alleviated by 2163 birds in three days of shooting, and they never noticed them missing. Did I mention this is the slow season? The backup was needed one time, as I always cleaned and lubed the gun more than adequately for a Texas limit of 12 birds. That's not good enough for this kind of shooting. Let those guys clean your gun, before the first shoot if possible. They know what they're doing as they have Berettas on site with over 1,000,000 rounds logged through them. After Chelo finished mine, I never had another problem with them.

On equipment, I can't say enough about buying the right gun case. Most of us had the welded aluminum cases, but one bought his the night before and could only find the riveted type. The end of it was missing (I'm not exaggerating here; I wish I'd taken a photo of it) when it came off the plane in Cordoba, but fortunately the barrels hanging out were not damaged. Our guide told us the better plastic ones held up the best in their experience, Pelican being the top performer.

Pain medication (aspirin, Tylenol, whatever you prefer) is recommended. I didn't think I needed any, but some did. I've since found out that 800mg of ibuprofen does wonders when I wrench a back muscle, which I managed to do the second morning. That problem haunted me the rest of the trip in spite of the nightly massage provided at the lodge. Also recommended are your favorites for sinus (you don't want to fly back with sinus issues), gastrointestinal emergencies, and anything you might be on normally. It's amazing how I never thought of that stuff when younger, but I actually did this time. I also carried a back brace since I'm prone to the occasional mishap with the lower back.

Our travel started in Houston. I could have taken it from Austin, probably a direct flight to Miami, but a 2-3 hour drive to Houston seemed like a good idea at the time to get to fly with everyone from the start. Driving back, I had a different opinion. Anyway, I drove over the night before and availed myself of Travis' gracious offer of a place to stay for the night. The next day we went to a local establishment for breakfast and then

waited for everyone to arrive at his place. All but two showed up prior to the prescribed departure time, which was made clear to everyone as to wait was to risk blowing the trip. We all piled into my SuperCrew and figured out where we needed to be within the depths of Bush International.

Those two brave (I could think of more descriptive words to describe their decision) souls who were late decided to go in to the office that morning. They did eventually make it, but we were in doubt and remained so until closer to departure time than we cared for.

Check-in was a little confusing for the Continental folks due to the firearms, but the TSA folks seemed to have a handle on most of it. The Continental staff made the best of it, working with TSA to figure it out for us. The TSA bunch was very friendly, courteous and professional. I've heard of and had my own bad experiences with TSA folks, but seldom ever hear of the good ones. The group in the international terminal (I know it's to Miami, but the plane came in from out of the country) rated high in my book.

A trip to Miami, a stop for a bite to eat and the duty-free zone, and we were off to Argentina. I have to remember next time, though, to specifically ask for the seats with extra room or an upgrade. Our flight was overnight and I slept very little with my legs jammed into the seat in front of me. At 6'3" and mostly legs, normal plane seats and I don't get along well at all, much less on an eight-hour flight. We finally made it into Santiago, Chile at about 4:00 a.m. local time. We made a quick tour of the airport to stretch our legs and then some of us found some contiguous empty seats at our terminal and stretched out for some real sleep. Then it was the last leg (or so we thought) to Cordoba.

As we were on our final approach, the plane suddenly powered up and gained elevation fast. It was obvious we were circling. The pilot eventually informed us we had aborted the landing due to weather conditions. After another twenty minutes or so, he announced we'd have to go to Mendoza to fuel and wait out the weather. The Argentina wine country and we couldn't leave the plane! We eventually departed, went first to the second leg of the flight, then back to Cordoba, although not in time to get in any hunting that afternoon.

During this unscheduled layover, we made the acquaintance of a group from California there for the same purpose, although with a different outfitter. It was a reputable outfitter, one I'd received good references on, but it became clear in our conversation why we paid more for ours. There were some things

they had to handle still, whereas everything on our trip was 'spoon-fed' to us. It was nice being pampered.

Next month, we're there: the Argentina experience, with pictures.

MATCH RESULTS

Rifle Silhouette Match Report

Date: 3/18/2007
Match Director: David Hailes

Standard NRA Rifle Silhouette Match

.22 Rifle which complies with NRA Standard Rifle Rules
Fired at 1/5 scale animals at regulation distances

Number of Competitors:	11	
Award	Name	Score
High Overall	Bill Motl	30
1st AAA	Rick Briscoe	27
1st AA	Jorge Cigarroa	20
1st B	Scott Wallace	9

Hunter NRA Rifle Silhouette Match

.22 Rifle which complies with NRA Standard Rifle Rules
Fired at 1/5 scale animals at regulation distances

Number of Competitors:	12	
Award	Name	Score
High Overall	Mark Pharr	28
1st AA	Daryl Bates	17
1st A	Bowen Weens	15
1st B	John Nichols	16

ARC Club SB Rifle Silhouette Match

.22 Rifle which Complies to Club rules
Fired at 3/8 scale animals at regulation distances

Number of Competitors:	5	
Award	Name	Score
1st Scope	Sheldon Pharr	11
1st Iron Sites	Curtis Boecker	18
1st Sandbagger	Cameron Boecker	25
2nd Sandbagger	Savana Pharr	13

100yd Hunter Benchrest Score Sheet

Date: 3/7/2011
Match Director: Virgil Howarth
Number of Competitors: 9

Match Hunter

Award	Name	Score	Caliber
1ST	Charlie Kirkpatrick	249 11X	30/284
2ND	Virgil Howarth	247 15X	30HBR
3RD	Lane Wells	240 7X	30/284

Factory Varmint

Award	Name	Score	Caliber
1ST	Joe Hutchens	243 2X	22/250
2ND	Jon Aronson	241 3X	30/30
3RD	Art Bosco	228 1X	223

A.R.C. CALENDAR: April 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1 • 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range C - High Power Rifle Match</p> <p>• 3:00 pm -5:30 pm : Range A - Junior Muzzleloading Practice</p>	2	3	4	5	6	<p>7 • 9:00 am -12:00 pm : Range Workday - Range Closed</p>
<p>8 • 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range D/E - Pistol Silhouette Match</p>	9	10	11	<p>12 • 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm : Board Meeting - China Star</p>	13	<p>14 • 8:00 am -8:00 pm : Educ Bldg - CHL Class</p> <p>• 9:00 am -11:00 am : Range A - Junior Pistol Practice</p> <p>• 11:15 am -1:00 pm : Range B - CHL Class</p>
<p>15 • 8:00 am -6:00 pm : NRA: RSO class</p> <p>• 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range A - 2700 Conventional Pistol Match</p> <p>• 9:00 am -1:00 pm : Range D-E Rifle Silhouette Seminar</p> <p>• 1:00 pm -4:00 pm : Range D/E - Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Match</p>	16	<p>17 • 6:30 pm -9:00 pm : Indoor Air Range - Air Pistol/Rifle Practice</p>	18	<p>19 • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm : Range B - CHL Class</p> <p>• 7:00 pm -8:30 pm : General Meeting - Educ Bldg</p>	20	<p>21 • Range D/E - Texas State Smallbore Rifle Match</p> <p>• 9:00 am -11:00 am : Range D/E - Junior Sporter Rifle Practice</p> <p>• 3:00 pm -5:00 pm : Range Orientation</p>
<p>22 • Range D/E - Texas State Smallbore Rifle Match</p> <p>• Blackpower Match moved to next Sunday</p> <p>• 1:00 pm -5:00 pm : Range D/E - Blackpower Rifle Match</p>	23	24	25	26	27	<p>28 • 9:00 am -1:00 pm : Range D/E - NRA Smallbore Rifle Match</p> <p>• 11:15 am -1:00 pm : Range B - CHL Class</p>
<p>29 • 10:00 am -12:00 pm : Range C - Varmint Benchrest Match</p> <p>• 1:00 pm -3:00 pm : Range C - Hunter Benchrest Match</p> <p>• 1:00 pm -5:00 pm : Range D/E - Blackpower Rifle Match</p>	30					

A.R.C. CALENDAR: May 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u> • 9:00 am -12:00 pm : Range Workday - Range Closed
<u>6</u> • 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range C - High Power Rifle Match • 3:00 pm -5:30 pm : Range A - Junior Muzzleloading Practice	<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u> • 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm : Board Meeting - China Star	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u> • 9:00 am -11:00 am : Range A - Junior Pistol Practice • 11:15 am -1:00 pm : Range B - CHL Class
<u>13</u> • 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range D/E - Pistol Silhouette Match	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u> • 6:30 pm -9:00 pm : Indoor Air Range - Air Pistol/Rifle Practice	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u> • 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm : General Meeting - Educ Bldg	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u> • 9:00 am -11:00 am : Range D/E - Junior Sporter Rifle Practice • 9:00 am -2:00 pm : Celebrate Armed Forces Day at ARC • 3:00 pm -5:00 pm : Range Orientation
<u>20</u> • 9:00 am -3:00 pm : Range A - 2700 Conventional Pistol Match • 11:15 am -1:00 pm : Range B - CHL Class • 1:00 pm -4:00 pm : Range D/E - Smallbore Rifle Silhouette Match	<u>21</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>24</u> • 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm : Range B - CHL Class	<u>25</u>	<u>26</u> • 9:00 am -1:00 pm : Range D/E - NRA Smallbore Rifle Match
<u>27</u> • 10:00 am -12:00 pm : Range C - Varmint Benchrest Match • 1:00 pm -5:00 pm : Range D/E - Blackpower Rifle Match • 1:00 pm -3:00 pm : Range C - Hunter Benchrest Match	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>		

CLUB OFFICERS 2007

BOARD OF DIRECTORS	All Board Members		bod@austinrifclub.org
President	Greg Troxell	671-7841	president@austinrifclub.org
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Benchrest Varmint	Larry Hawkes	385-5553	No email
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Conventional Pistol	Steve Naiser	302-4620	2700@austinrifclub.org
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Highpower	Paul LaBerge	930-5105	highpower@austinrifclub.org
Silhouette Pistol	Wayne Harlow	251-5730	pistolssilhouette@austinrifclub.org
Silhouette Rifle	David Hailes	310-9973	riflessilhouette@austinrifclub.org
Smallbore 3-position	Ken McDaniel	892-1504	smallbore@austinrifclub.org

4-H/ARC Juniors Shooting Sports Leader Contact Information

Project	First Name	Last Name	Home Phone	Work Phone	Cell Phone	Email
Shotgun	Lou	Freitag II	512-335-0879		512-576-8770	loufreitag@aol.com
Pistol/Muzzleloading	Leland	Gebert	512-285-2494		512-321-8683	lgebert@yahoo.com
March Madness	Phyllis	Gibich	512-251-5461	512-990-1991	512-844-5831	vikingpumps@juno.com
Varies	Terry	Gibich	512-251-5461	512-990-1991	512-848-9610	vikingpumps@juno.com
Manager	Wayne	Harlow	512-251-5730		512-585-5730	wayne@harlows.us
Archery	Gene	Jones	512-252-3338	512-305-8820	512-784-2554	C2959J-4H@yahoo.com
Manager	Becky	Koscielniak	512-252-3564		512-294-1269	tknbk@flash.net
Archery	Tony	Koscielniak	512-252-3564		512-294-1267	Tony_Koscielniak@dell.com
Precision Rifle	Kenneth	McDaniel	512-892-1504	512-322-3442		Ken.mcdaniel@tdi.state.tx.us
Manager	Cheryl	Moseley	512-989-9836	512-225-7057	512-750-8152	cmoseley@ercot.com
Sporter Rifle	David	Phillips	512-834-2328	512-990-7199	512-914-1826	arc-dave@prodigy.net
Rifle	Earl	Wellborn	512-251-6746	512-239-0947	512-922-6397	earlwellborn@sbcglobal.net

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Photo taken in Argentina after the shooting slowed down. You can't get a good scenery picture for all the birds getting in the way.