



UNITED STATES NATIONAL RIFLE TEAM
 **SOUTH AFRICA**
MARCH 2009

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ITINERARY

UNITED STATES NATIONAL RIFLE TEAM TO SOUTH AFRICA 2009



SATURDAY	21 MARCH	Depart U.S.
SUNDAY	22 MARCH	Arrive and overnight in Johannesburg
MONDAY	23 MARCH	Depart for Bloemfontein / Free Day
TUESDAY	24 MARCH	Training Day
WEDNESDAY	25 MARCH	Training Day
THURSDAY	26 MARCH	SABU 80th Anniversary Matches
FRIDAY	27 MARCH	SABU 80th Anniversary Matches
SATURDAY	28 MARCH	SABU 80th Anniversary Matches
SUNDAY	29 MARCH	Free Day
MONDAY	30 MARCH	73rd SABU Open Championships
TUESDAY	31 MARCH	73rd SABU Open Championships
WEDNESDAY	1 APRIL	State President's Match
THURSDAY	2 APRIL	State President's Match
FRIDAY	3 APRIL	State President's Match
SATURDAY	4 APRIL	Grand Challenge Shield
SUNDAY	5 APRIL	Depart Bloemfontein
MONDAY	6 APRIL	Arrive U.S.



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LETTER FROM MIKE KREI

NRA COMPETITIVE SHOOTING DIVISION

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA COMPETITIVE SHOOTING

11250 WAPLES MILL ROAD
FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA 22030



March 2, 2009

Dear Members of the USA National Rifle Team,

The Staff of the National Rifle Association and the Competitive Shooting Division thank you for your dedication in joining the team on this trip to South Africa for the SABU 80th Anniversary and Open Championship Matches.

We wish you all the best of luck and thank the companies and supporters who have helped to make this trip possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Krei". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike Krei, Director

LETTER FROM DENNIS FLAHARTY

CAPTAIN, UNITED STATES NATIONAL RIFLE TEAM



Bloemfontein, South Africa



Dear Team,

I wish to thank each and every one of you for joining us as we travel to South Africa. We are thrilled that our first outing as the United States National touring team takes us to beautiful South Africa for the South African Bisley Union's 80th Anniversary matches.

These trips are intended to provide our shooters and coaches with experience in international competition. We encourage you to learn as much as you can, do your best, work with your coaches, and most of all enjoy yourself. It has been ten years since my last visit to South Africa. I was very fortunate to meet many fine people and along the way forge lifetime friendships. I encourage you to reach out to your international shooting community and do the same.

We would like to thank our hosts for welcoming us to Bloemfontein and extend our appreciation to Syd Gosling for all his help.

Best regards,

Dennis Flaharty
Captain
United States National Rifle Team

THE SOUTH AFRICAN BISLEY UNION

SABU

The South African Bisley Union (“SABU”) formerly the South African National Rifle Association, was formed in 1928. SABU is the controlling body for full bore rifle target shooting in South Africa encompassing the disciplines of Target Rifle (generally known as Palma® in the United States), F-Class and .303 (303 is a discipline using the former .303 service rifle for formal target shooting). One of SABU’s major goals is to encourage and promote the sport of target rifle shooting in South Africa. The headquarters is in Pretoria and the Union is controlled by a council consisting of two representatives each from each of South Africa’s nine provinces.



The day to day business is vested in an Executive Committee which implements the policy formulated by the Council, which includes organizing and presenting the SA Open Championships each year. The South African National Rifle Association (SANRA) was formed on July 1, 1928 when the four provincial Rifle Associations that existed at the time were disbanded. The organization’s name was changed to SABU on April 11, 2000.

THE SOUTH AFRICAN OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The First South African Open Championship was held by SANRA in August 1929 in Cape Town. Since then, they have been held every year with the exception of the World War II years of 1940 - 1947. The 2009 championship will be the 73rd SA Open Championship presented by SANRA/ SABU. 2009 also marks the 80th anniversary of the first championship. Most of the Championships have been held in Bloemfontein, which features exceptional facilities and is centrally situated in the country. Of the nine matches today which make up the Grand Aggregate, (for a possible score of 665), seven date back to the first championship in 1929.

The premier match is the State President’s Match. The winner of this match is “chaired” in similar fashion to the winners of the Queen’s and Governor General’s finals in the United Kingdom and Canada respectively. The championships generally run from Saturday to the following Saturday; shooting does not take place on the Sunday in between. In 2009 the dates are Saturday March 28 to Saturday April 4. The 80th Anniversary matches, which take place immediately prior to the South African Open, are on Thursday the 26th and Friday 27th of March 2009.

SOUTH AFRICA

The southern most country on the African continent, has nine provinces: Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Gauteng, North West, Free State, Kwazulu-Natal, Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and Western Cape. The major cities are Johannesburg and Pretoria in Gauteng, Durban in Kwazulu Natal, Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape and Cape Town in the Western Cape. The population is about 48 million. There are game reserves in various parts of the country, the largest being the Kruger National Park in the north of the country.

The South African Open Championships which will be held in Bloemfontein about 400 kilometers south of Johannesburg, will take place at the end of summer.

TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

DENNIS R. FLAHARTY, TEAM CAPTAIN



Dennis is the cofounder, President and CEO of SypherMedia International (SMI), a leading developer of network media security and related TV software products. Dennis is active in long range shooting and has significant international experience. He was a member of the 1995, 1999, 2003 and 2007 USA Palma® Teams; and the 1997, 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2005 USA Goodwill Teams. In addition, he competed in the 1992, 1993 and 1994 Canada British Columbia Provincial Matches. He holds several significant long range shooting titles. He was the California State Long Range Champion in 1992, 1995, 2002, and 2005; the California National Champion Palma® Rifle at Long Range in 1996; the California Palma® Champion in 1997, 2000, 2005 and 2006; and the 2005 Canada National Championship .223 Champion.

DAN SIMPSON, VICE CAPTAIN - EAST COAST

Dan is the President and co-owner of Galaxy Glass & Aluminum Inc., a commercial glass and glazing contractor with locations in the New England and mid-Atlantic area. He lives with Kathy, his wonderful wife of 16 years in Chester, New Hampshire. Dan enjoys bird hunting with his yellow Lab, Emma, and spending time outdoors in his RV.

Dan was the Governor General Gold Medal winner at the CFRC matches in 2001 and was Captain of the U.S. Rifle Team to Canada in 2002. Dan is also a five time New Hampshire State high-power champion and has won many state and regional matches in both High Power and Long Range shooting. In July of 2005, Dan fired two back-to-back perfect 450 Palma® scores during a registered long range match in Albany, NY. He is the only person to have accomplished this feat. Dan was a member of the 2003 U.S. Palma® Team as well as a member on the 2007 team until work commitments led him to withdraw.



Cape Town, South Africa



THOMAS WHITAKER, VICE CAPTAIN - WEST COAST



Tom lives in Yorba Linda, California with his wife, Kathy. He has been a dentist for twenty-eight years graduating from the University of Southern California School of Dentistry. He has been shooting for forty-nine years during which time he has competed in small-bore, ISSF, and full-bore. He was a member of the 1979 USA Pan-American Gold Medal Rifle Team. He was a member of four U.S. Palma® Teams, and Main Coach of the 2003 U.S. Palma® Team. Tom has won several National and International Championships and holds USA National Records in both small-bore and high-power rifle. He is the current Veterans World Fullbore Champion. When not shooting, Tom enjoys golf, but only can dream of being as good at that sport as he is at shooting.

SFC EMIL PRASLICK III, HEAD COACH

Emil is the Head Coach of the United States Army Marksmanship Unit (AMU) posted at Ft. Benning, Georgia. His distinguished record in high-power shooting, first as a Service Rifle shooter, and later as a coach, and in long-range shooting spans over a decade. As a shooter, he was the Inter-Service Long Range Champion and Individual Overall Champion in 1997 and 1998 respectively. He was a firing member and coach of several re-cord-setting Service Rifle teams including the "clean sweep" team of 1999. From 2002-2007, Emil coached teams to national records in the National Trophy Team match (2004), the Inter-Service MCCDC Team (2005), the Roumanian Trophy (2005), and the Herrick Trophy (2006). In 2007, he was the coach of the winning Herrick and Roumanian Trophy teams, the first double-win in these events for the Army since 1986.

Emil was a member of the 2003 and 2007 U.S. Palma® teams, a coach for the 2002 and 2005 US F-Class team, and has competed at the DCRA matches in Connaught for the last few years.



ROBERT STEKETEE, SOUTH AFRICA TOURING TRIP TEAM ADJUTANT

Bob has been traveling with the United States Goodwill and National Teams since 1997 when he travelled for the first time with the team to South Africa. He has received numerous awards for long range shooting and will be a member of the Veterans team for the 2010 World Championship in Australia.



IAN CHEESEMAN, PALMA TEAM ADJUTANT

Ian is the founder and President of LVA Corporate Communications, a leading public relations and communications consultancy. Ian has spent 25 years in the communications industry as a journalist and public relations executive. Ian is a long time supporter of long range shooting and has sponsored significant awards at national and international competitions. He is the founder and benefactor of the U.S. Long Range Under-25 and Under-21 programs. He organized, selected and developed training for the inaugural Young Eagles (the teams are known as the Young Eagles only when shooting in international competitions) team in 2000.



SFC NORMAN ANDERSON



Sergeant First Class Norm Anderson is currently assigned as a Senior instructor in the U.S. Army Reserve Small Arms Readiness Group at Ft. McCoy, Wisconsin where he instructs small arms and marksmanship to Soldiers preparing for deployment. While relatively new to Palma[®] Norm is a veteran competitor in the sport of Highpower. SFC Anderson spent 15 years on the USAMU Service Rifle team where among other accomplishments, he was a firing member of both Roumanian and Herrick long range teams that each set new National records, as well as the 2006 Wimbledon Cup winner. He also won the Billy C.

Atkins Trophy for being the high shooter using a Service Rifle in the 2008 National Long Range Championships. Norm and his wife Jennifer have two children Matthew and Meagan.

LANE BUXTON

Lane resides with his lovely and tolerant wife of 21 years, in Orangevale, California. He graduated from Westmont College with a B.A. in Economics, and from C.S.U.S. with an M.B.A., and is now a general contractor in the greater Sacramento area. He has been shooting local high-power matches for about ten years, but first fired a Palma rifle in 2005. And after expending many thousands of rounds, he has “won a few, and lost a few” matches. He shoots a shiny new Gamboa-built RPA rifle. When not shooting, he is hunting, fishing, or loading more ammunition.





TYRELL COOPER



SGT Cooper was born and raised in California. He is a member of the Army Marksmanship Unit in Ft Benning, Ga, where he currently

resides. Ty began shooting high-power at the age of fourteen and picked up long-range the following year. His latest shooting accomplishments in 2008 include: winning the High power Service Rifle Championships at Camp Perry, Ohio and winning the Spirit of America full-bore matches in Raton, New Mexico. He enjoys photography, fishing, baseball, and football. (He also enjoys long walks on the beach with random prey).

DAVID L. CRANDALL



David works for the Idaho National Laboratory and is presently managing programs for the Department of Defense. He holds bachelor and master degrees in mechanical engineering. He has been an active competitor since 1970 in pistol and then rifle marksmanship. David has been the Idaho State Champion eight times since beginning active long-range competition in 1996. He holds the Distinguished Rifleman badge and Long Range High Master rating and was a member of the US Palma Team for the 2003 World Championships. David has a long-standing interest in gunsmithing, machine work, and holds several firearms related patents.

Everyone is cheering for you in South Africa.



Our best wishes to the United States Long Range Rifle Teams in South Africa. If you're using a Nightforce, shoot with confidence. After all, Nightforce shooters own more long-range benchrest records, including multiple world records, than any other scope company can claim. Good luck, shoot straight, and enjoy South Africa. Send us some pictures when you win.



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STEVE CUNICO



Steve lives in Raton, NM and is semi-retired. He currently operates his automotive machine shop, which he has owned for 33 years. During the winter months, Steve is a big game


hunting guide. He began shooting small bore prone in 1989 and got into high power long range in 1997. He has won several small bore prone regional and state championships. He has won the Texas State high power long range championship, and has won the Colorado high power long range championship twice.

SHERRI GALLAGHER HURD



PFC Sherri Jo Gallagher Hurd is a member of the Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga. She has been shooting competitively for over fifteen

years. Sherri graduated with an associate's degree in 2008 as a veterinary technician. She takes pleasure in competing, training, running, and reading.



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BOB GAMBOA



Bob is recently retired from his automotive body and frame shop in Sacramento, California. Bob was the Vice Captain on the 2003 USA Palma Team and is currently the Head

Coch of the 2011 Veterans Team. He won the Army Cup in 1986, placed in the top 25 in the 2003 World championships and has been the California State Long Range Highpower Champion. He was a firing member of the 1992,1999 and 2003 U.S. Palma Teams. He also is a custom rifle and stock builder. He shoots a BAT bench rest left-handed action with a Krieger barrel.

JOSH HARLESS

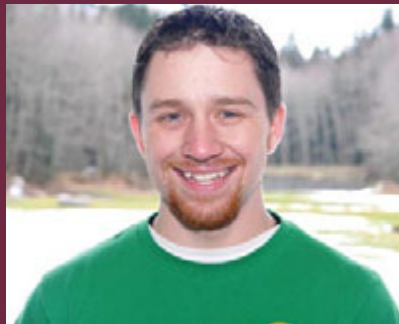


Josh currently resides in Fountain, Colorado where he works as a gunsmith. He acquired his gunsmithing degree from Trinidad State Junior College

in Trinidad, Colorado in 2003. Josh was a member of the USA Young Eagles from 2000-2007. He won the Long-range Nationals at Camp Perry Ohio in 2002. Josh enjoys many outdoor activities, including bow hunting, fishing, and building custom rifles.

DAVID LITTLEFIELD

David lives in Kent, Washington, and is working for Fatigue Technologies as a Lab Technician.



He began competitive shooting at 13 and his shooting accomplishments include Local, State, Regional and National Match wins. He fired on the 2007 silver medal winning Under 25 Team in Connaught. He shoots RPA Quadlock actions with Krieger barrels in Cloward prone stocks. David is also an assistant coach of the Washington State Junior High Power Rifle Team (The Bad Apples).

JORGE PUIGNAU



Jorge lives in Fort Lauderdale Florida. He is married to Elena and has two daughters, Jennifer (15) and Jackelyn (12). He enjoys fine cigars, scotch and golf. He has been shooting long range since 2002, and also competes in small-bore. Jorge is the

Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder of Acceller Inc an Internet Marketing Company based in Miami Florida. He shoots an RPA action with Bartlein barrel.

About Palma® Promotions, Inc

Palma® Promotions, Inc. is a not for profit tax-exempt amateur sport fundraising organization. A 501(c)(3) organization, it was founded by Bert Rollins and Dave Fiehtner and was incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia on December 17, 1993. Palma® Promotions, Inc. is focused on supporting the USA Long Range Rifle Teams including the Palma® Team, the Veterans Team and the Juniors Team. All proceeds go directly to the captains and/or adjutants of each team.

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Congratulations Ty Cooper winner of the 2008 S.O.A.

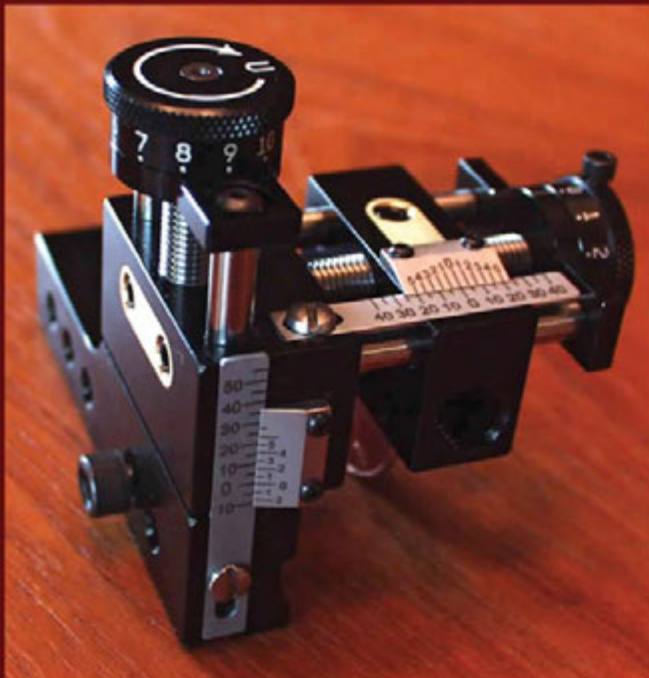
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Good luck to the US National Rifle Team



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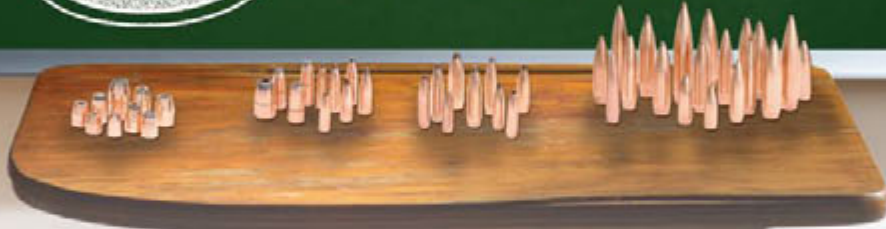
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