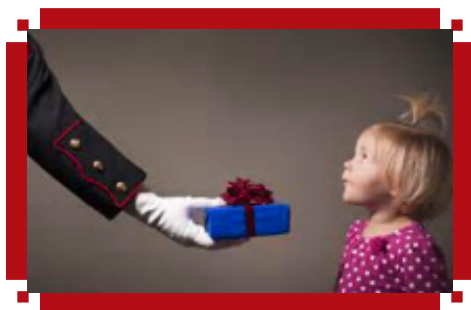




December 2019 Volume I, Issue 7

TOYS FOR TOTS 2019



IT'S NOT TOO SOON to start thinking of others during this holiday season when children are facing the possibility of going without gifts.

Jim Flanders, former CCSSEF board member, asks that you please consider making a donation to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots program through the CHESHIRE COUNTY SHOOTING SPORTS EDUCATION FOUNDATION. He installed the Toys for Tots box in the clubhouse on Veterans' Day to accept new, unwrapped toys any time through December 8th.

Our donations have been submitted to Marine veteran Wally Reny in the past. We do not sign up as an official site for the public, as the club's property is restricted. This year's

Cheshire County Campaign Coordinator is Scott Fifield. He uses local social service agencies and organizations to identify needy children and to help coordinators distribute toys here in our area. Some toys are distributed directly via hospitals, hospices, shelters, special children's event, etc. Toys for children of all ages gladly are accepted but, in the past, those for ages 0-2 (educational) and 15-17 (science experiments, Nerf blasters, for example) especially have been needed. There is no need for Legos, Barbies, or coloring books.

Your support will be appreciated by all those young, smiling faces!

Happy holidays to you and yours!

Jim Bob



View from the ... GENERAL MANAGER'S DESK

Communication

How do you stay in touch with your range?

There are five passive and any number of active approaches. The passive approaches are: this newsletter (now monthly), the range calendar (reached through the website and also excerpted in the newsletter), the Ferry Brook Range website, our Facebook presence (Group and Range Page), and our email blasts. We want to continuously improve all of these information highways and any and all constructive comments are welcome. Also, any willingness to help will be REALLY welcomed. A good idea has little value if there is no one to act on it. Remember, we are a membership range supported almost completely by volunteer efforts.

As for active approaches, they are limited only by your own ingenuity. All of the Board of Directors phone numbers are on your membership card. There are many contact numbers posted in various events on the calendar. There is contact information

scattered throughout the Range website. Not sure whom to call? Well, pick a likely suspect and you will find a path to the person or information that you are seeking.

On another topic, when I lived in Brooklyn and was a member of a local range in Cobble Hill, I loved hearing the long time Brooklyn members talk about the rifle teams that used to exist in the New York City school system. They would wondrously recount bringing their 22 LR target rifles to the school ranges by carrying them to school on the subways!

Today, in NYC, that would most likely lead to life imprisonment.



There are today, at your range, opportunities for your youngsters to enjoy the pleasures of shooting competitions just like their grandparents and great grandparents did. If you are a regular reader of this newsletter you will have seen information about both the (Continued on page 3)

DECEMBER 2019 — EVENT CALENDAR

Tuesday, December 3

BOD meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 4

Open Trap Noon — open to the public.

Saturday, December 7

RSO Ron Avery
Membership Konrad Sytko

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Wednesday, December 11

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, December 14

RSO Jeff Fifield
Membership Marilyn Huston

10 AM Open Trap & 5 Stand

Trap practice open to the public

Wednesday, December 18

Open Trap Noon open to the public.

Saturday, December 21

RSO Konrad Sytko
Membership Ron Hitchings

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM open to the public.

Wednesday, December 25

Open Trap

Noon open to the public.

Saturday, December 28

RSO
Membership Patrice Nesbitt

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM open to the public.

Wednesday, January 1

RSOs on duty
Membership Patrice Nesbitt
NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION
Trap, .22 Pistol and .22 Rifle Competitions
more information following.

Saturday, January 4

RSO Jennifer Marchesi
Membership Konrad Sytko

Open Trap & 5 Stand

10 AM practice open to the public

Monday, January 6

RSO meeting 6:30 PM

Tuesday, January 7

BOD meeting 6:30 PM

NEW YEAR'S DAY CELEBRATION

Starting at 10 AM we will have FREE coffee and refreshments in the Clubhouse.

An open trap shoot will commence at 10 AM as will a 22 LR pistol/rifle competition in a HEATED pistol bay one (the enclosed Pistol Bay 1). Bob Prudhomme and Ron Hitchings will be running the competition there.

This is a great opportunity to start the NEW YEAR and a NEW DECADE for all—shoot, eat, enjoy good fellowship and renew your membership for 2020.

General Manager

Peter Crowell

603-352-8563

gm@ccfandg.org

Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

10 AM to 3 PM

Clubhouse Café

Saturdays 8 AM to 1 PM

Breakfast & Lunch.

*Come on by and get to know
fellow shooters.*

Membership

Saturdays 9 AM to 1 PM

at the Clubhouse

THE MEMBERSHIP ANNUAL MEETING

has been rescheduled for February 11th at the Elks Lodge in Keene.

The Social hour starts at 5:30 PM catered hors d'oeuvres.

Meeting starts at 6:30 PM

Proxies will be mailed by the end of January. Keep a watch on your mail.

Newsletter Distribution

Clubhouse

Sam's Outfitters

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ATM Guns and Ammo, Keene

Good Fortune, Keene

YBA Muffler & Brake, Swanzey

Greater Keene

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FERRY BROOK JUNIOR SHOOTERS

Smallbore & Air (precision category) Rifle competitive shooting program. New members are welcome to join at any time during our season which runs the 1st Saturday after Labor Day through the 2nd Saturday in May.

Head Coach: Larry Parker 603 357-6047 lpvpshootn@ne.rr.com

Range Information

Outdoor - Ferry Brook Range, 19 Ferry Brook Rd, Keene, NH 03431

10 point 50 / 100 Yard Covered Range

Indoor - Peterborough Sportsmen's Club

209 Old Peterborough Rd, Dublin, NH 03444

7 point indoor rifle and air rifle range

2019 JUNIOR INVITATIONAL COMBINED SCORES

Athlete	Rifle	Air Rifle	Aggregate	Award
Ashley Sprague	547/15X	389.7	936.7/15X	Gold
Natalie Davidson	545/8X	391.6	936.6/8X	Silver
Ashlee Peters	548/12X	378.0	926.01/2X	Bronze
Evie Proctor	528/4X	390.1	918.1/4X	
Shea Wilkins-Fleck	529/9X	376.0	918.1/4X	
Kyle Huston	528/4X	376.0	905.0/9X	
Lillian Prigge	510/9X	369.5	879.5/9X	



(Cont'd from page 1)

Junior Rifle Team

and the ATA/AIM (American Trap Association/Academics, Integrity, and Marksmanship) shotgun program for the young folks.

As the ATA/AIM program is very new to our range, let me tell you a bit about it.

The American Trap Association was founded in 1900 in Sparta, IL where it still is today. It is one of the largest clay target shooting associations in the world and lives on a 1600 acre range that has over sixty shooting fields! In 1923 (the same year that the Ferry Brook Range came into existence) they created AIM as the official youth amateur trapshooting association of ATA.

The ATA has shooting age categories and classes that give competitors the opportunity to shoot with people in their age and skill level. For example you might be 15 to 17 years old and a class AA (one of the better) shooter. Your class depends on the last 400 targets shot so it improves as the the shooter improves.

We have AIM/ATA coaches in our program that work with our youngsters to teach them firearms safety and the special skills of trap shooting. Both ATA and AIM offer scholarships to graduating seniors and opportunities to gain a spot on the All American Team.

Get that young person's nose out of that darned phone and get them out to the range.

If any of this piques your interest call me at the range (603-352-8563) and I will get you hooked up. 🌱

Enjoy the holidays!

Peter

FERRY BROOK RANGE NEWSLETTER



About us
Cheshire County Shooting
Sports Education Foundation
[CCSSEF]
a 501(c)(3) organization

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Distribution:

- Print 300 copies
- Clubhouse
- Local businesses
- Chamber of Commerce
- Events
- CCSSEF web site
- Mail subscriptions are available
- 1,100+ email
- Like us on Facebook

Patrice Nesbitt, Editor

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Checks payable to CCSSEF

Ferry Brook Range Newsletter
PO Box 233
Keene, NH 03431

Article submission and advertising due by the 21st each month. Contact me for advertising rates!



SHOT NOT TAKEN

By James W. Flanders

This short story is in recognition of the Junior Rifle team—our future in the shooting sports...

Sixteen-year-old Sam Willard lay behind a log with his Winchester 30/30 on top. This was the third day of deer season in this northcentral part of the Granite State. The late afternoon was unusually cold, with the sun shining through at intervals and black clouds drifting through some blue sky.

Sam and his grandfather had taken up their positions an hour ago. He scanned the little clearing in front of him surrounded by thick hardwood and pines. A crow cawed deep in the woods, soon to be answered by another. Then, silence. Sam let his mind wander. He thought of yesterday in school, when Buddy LeFaye challenged him to a ten-dollar bet on who would get his deer first. Sam took him up on it as the other kids listened in. Sam could ill afford ten dollars, but he had never backed down from his long-time

nemesis since grade school. Buddy was a big and overweight, pimply-faced bully with a loud mouth and foul language. His father, a logger, seemed to encourage him. Someday, thought Sam, things will come to a head.

As Sam gazed into the thick woods across the clearing, he thought of his one and only desire... to be a Game Warden. From the time when he was only seven years old and his grandparents had taken him to a Fish and Game meet-and-greet in town, he knew that was going to be his life-long career. In two years, he would be at UNH, he hoped. Good marks in high school were a must. Sam shifted his hips and legs to get more comfortable. He visualized the wonderful beef stew and cornbread his grandmother was making for supper in the old, sort-of-ramshackle farmhouse. He smiled at the thought.

Suddenly, Sam tensed at the sound of a twig or small branch breaking in the woods directly in front of him. He slid the rifle against his shoulder and waited. After ten minutes, he relaxed the rifle in his hands. Probably a falling

branch or a squirrel or something like that... He wanted to turn around and see if he could spot Papa, but knew he shouldn't move that much.

Sam dearly loved his grandparents. When his mother and father had died in a car crash coming back from Concord on an icy highway, his grandparents had taken him in and raised him. Grams said he looked like his father. Sam was tall and slim with brownish-blond hair and somewhat startling green eyes that mirrored whatever emotions he was feeling. All in all, Sam was a young man of which to be proud.

The sun now was at a different angle, and Sam was beginning to feel cold. Dark shadows were growing longer, and he couldn't see into the woods as he could an hour ago. In twenty minutes, or so, they would have to get out of the woods, and home was a good mile or so away. Sam didn't care. Just being outside and doing what he loved was everything. Sam looked down at his hands and rifle, and then raised his head to look out over the small clearing again.

He froze and stopped breathing. A thousand thoughts raced through his brain. Less than 75 yards away, the biggest deer he thought possible was looking straight at him. Every inch of the deer was gray, with 12 or 14 points. The Gray Ghost. This huge buck had been a topic of conversation for years. Hunters had claimed to see him. Some had said they shot at him. Townsfolk reported seeing him crossing the road, in their fields, on their way home at night... Some said there was no such thing. A bunch of hunters at the general store had put up 50 dollars, and the local gun club, another 50 dollars, for whoever got the Gray Ghost and brought him in.

Sam breathed in slowly, brought the hammer back, and took up the slack in the trigger. The huge buck had stopped a little to the side, presenting Sam with a perfect shot right behind the shoulder.

Sam laid the front sight on that spot. At least ten seconds passed and, by then, he wasn't looking through the sights. He was looking over the rifle at the most magnificent thing he had ever had seen. The deer raised his head with ears forward and tail flicking back and forth and, then, leaned forward and cropped some grass under a few leaves. Sam smiled as the deer suddenly raised his head and, again, looked directly at him. I wonder if he knows I'm here, thought Sam. Then, the big animal sniffed the air and turned and walked majestically back into the forest, where he seemed to melt away

among the trees. The Gray Ghost was gone.

Sam continued to stare at the spot where his deer vanished. Finally, he shook his head and put his rifle on half cock. "Did this really happen?" he asked aloud.

The next thing Sam knew, his grandfather was on one knee beside him, his rifle butt supporting on the ground. "Sam! What happened? Why didn't you shoot? What happened? You get buck fever or something? You had a perfect



shot! You couldn't miss! Why didn't you shoot? I could see him through my scope. I could have nailed him, but you were in the line of fire. Why didn't you shoot?"

Sam slowly got to his feet, as did his grandfather. "Papa," he said, "I didn't want to. I couldn't kill something that beautiful. He didn't deserve to die like that. Papa, that was the Gray Ghost. I don't want to kill our legend. I want him to live. I know you think it's stupid, but I want him in our woods and to go on living."

"Well somebody else will shoot him," his grandfather stated.

"Maybe." Sam answered softly. "Maybe."

"Well," suggested his grandfather, "we'd better start for home."

"Yep," agreed Sam.

They walked in silence, the smell of damp earth and the pungent smell of pines and woods prevailing over all. Birds flittered from tree to tree to prepare their nests for the coming night. The sun below the horizon left mixed colors of red, black, yellow, and blue that no artist could duplicate.

"Papa?" spoke Sam. "Are you mad at me?"

"No, Grandson. I'm not mad at you at all. You did what you thought was right and, after giving it some thought, you probably are. It takes a special type of person to do what you did, Sam. Not many people would give up money, fame, and recognition like you did over a principle. I'm kind of proud of you, Grandson."

Sam felt a warm glow spread through him and wanted to

hug his grandfather but kept walking. Maybe later. "Thank you, Papa," said Sam.

"Of course, the fact does remain you lost fifty dollars, right?"

"Can't lose what you never had, Papa," stated Sam. "But, it's 100 dollars. Buddy LeFaye bet me he'd get his deer first. I guess, now, he might."

"Where did you get 110 dollars to throw away?" asked Grandfather.

"I've still got some left over from helping Mr. Kovak hay this summer," replied Sam.

"Oh," grunted his grandfather.

They had walked along in silence for another few minutes, when Sam said, “Some folks in town say the reason Buddy gets a deer is because his father shoots it and puts Buddy’s tag on it; then, goes out and gets another deer.”

“Yeah, I’ve heard that, too; but, proving it is something else” his grandfather replied.

“When I’m a Game Warden, I’m going to prove it and arrest ‘em” said Sam.

“I hope you do, Grandson. I hope you do...”

They soon topped a small rise and stopped. Across the pasture stood the farmhouse. A soft glow from the lamps in the windows welcomed them as wood smoke curled from the chimney. Overhead, somewhere in the night sky, came the music of geese winging their way south. Cold was settling in. “By the way, Sam. You going to tell anybody about the deer?” asked his grandfather.

“No,” replied Sam. “Maybe Grams, that’s all.”

“Probably just as well,” said Grandfather. “Nobody would believe you anyway.”

“Probably not,” was Sam’s response. They grinned at each other and Sam said, “I’m starved, Papa. Let’s go eat.”

“Yeah,” said Grandfather. “Might ’s well. Can’t dance; too windy to haul rocks.” Chuckling, they made their way across the pasture to the warmth and love and contentment of the old farmhouse.

Later that night, Sam lay warm and cozy under the quilts his grandmother had made. His room was cold on the second floor, but he liked it that way. The old farmhouse, at times, would creak and groan as if talking to itself. Sam was content and sleepy, but he slipped out from under the quilts and padded to the north window. Outside was still, with a million stars and a quarter moon glowing. Frost already was covering the sheds and barn roofs, glowing silver in the moonlight. He looked across the pasture and at the woods where he had been a few hours ago. For ten minutes, he stared out at the pasture and at the wood line. “Rest easy, Gray Ghost. Rest easy,” he whispered.

Returning to his snug bed, he smiled as his eyes began to close and murmured softly, “Thank you.” 🍀

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GUN REVIEWS

by Jack Zeller



Smith & Wesson



2018 STRIKER FIRED PISTOL RUN-OFF REVIEW!

We are about to evaluate and review the three handguns below. This will be in context to find the best all around EDC or off duty carry pistol. The Glock 19 has for some decades been the standard to measure all the rest against. These three are considered 'compact' pistols, all have a fifteen round capacity. They are almost identical in dimensions and weight. I will elaborate on the differences later, but suffice it to say that all three have barrels about 4 inches long, are light striker fired pistols, and seem completely equal in material and fitting quality. The Sig is two ounces heavier than the other two...In the end, it may depend completely on personal choices of ergonomics that determines 1st place. Or, there may NOT be a first place. We'll see. In any case, you should know my history, as this is a completely subjective review (as they ALL are).

I was a pioneer in bringing Glocks to New England to serve in the police services, about mid 1980's. They were quite controversial at that time mainly due to anti-gun folks labeling them x-ray invisible. Silliness. Even my Chief was fully against them at first. In the end we prevailed and took in 55 Glock 17's 1st generation. Solid, reliable, combat accurate. 17+1 rounds. I had to convince, with a letter from my Chief, the State Academy to accept them. I put over 40,000 rounds through that Gen 1 before she broke. Don't remember ever having a malfunction. Blew the FBI away with it at Fort Devens. So, for some 30 years, Glock was THE combat battle pistol to me. We out shot the 10th Mountain boys with it, and it was unstoppable. And it caught on.

Took the L.E. world by storm. It was the perfect pistol. Of it's time. There WAS nothing else.

Then, about three years ago, while shooting my KPD Glock 31 3rd gen duty pistol (.357 Sig caliber) at the range, a stranger asked me if he could try it. He offered me a S&W M&P 9 full size to try in exchange. I accepted. I fired most of a magazine from that M&P and then stood there, nearly speechless. It became instantly obvious that my 3rd Gen Glock was a piece of block antique. Why had I not kept current? I'd hardly heard of the M&P series pistols. I bought one that evening. I put 1000 rounds through it. The trigger was not ideal, but installed an Apex tactical, and it was perfect. I have almost 10,000 rounds through that full size M&P, and not a single malfunction. It is the most butter smooth and easy to shoot full size battle pistol I have ever handled. It is so ergonomically superior to the Glocks that I have divested myself of all but the most sentimental duty pieces. What this did was wake me up and realize that in the last 10 years, there has been TRUE competition in the gun world. Huge markets will do that. I had not been paying attention. So, shortly after that, a fellow employee at the Sheriff's dept let me try his M&P Shield. I was blown away by it's shoot ability, accuracy, and ergonomics. Bought one that day. See you later Glock 42/43. But, then decided that when not headed to work wearing the M&P9, or in shorts carrying the single stack Shield, I needed the M&P compact (gen 1.0 12 round). Nice but I don't like it's 12 round capacity or short grip for a compact. So when the 2.0 came out I traded and thus you see the Smith pictured below. I have not shot

it. But, people, it was produced with the explicit purpose of competing with the Glock 19 compact (the standard to judge against) and the Sig 320 Carry (compact). When guys at the department heard that I was going the review the M&P 2.0 I was promptly (and generously) offered both a Gen 5 Glock 19 and a Sig 320 Carry to review along side the Smith. Neat, but uh-oh. What happened to my Glock love, might just happen with my M&P love!. I have resolved however, that of the three pistols pictured below, the one that I take to, is the one I will buy. These are serious pistols, for serious professionals, and capable of serious social assignment. The one left out, is the FNH 509.

Those folks are not sleepers, and know their battle weapons. Just can't afford one to test right now, but what a fun test with the three below it would be! Some day!



OK, so right here we have the M&P 9C 2.0 without manual safety to review. Check the specs.

S&W 9 M&P C 2.0

You can buy this for about \$460

SPECIFICATIONS

SKU: 11683

Model: M&P®9 M2.0™ Compact

Caliber: 9mm Capacity: 15+1

Barrel Length: 4" / 10.2 cm

Overall Length: 7.3"

Front Sight: Steel - White Dot

Rear Sight: Steel - White Two Dot

Action: Striker Fire

Grip: Polymer

Weight: 24.0 oz / 680.4g

Barrel Material: Stainless Steel - Armornite®

Finish

Slide Material: Stainless Steel - Armornite®

Finish

Frame Material: Polymer

Purpose: Home Protection, Personal Protection

And here below is the Gen 5 Glock 19. And while it has been losing some ground in the CC market it is unarguably the most popular pistol for EDC that has ever been manufactured. It has an earned reputation for ruggedness, reliability and longevity and is fully combat accurate. We'll discuss ergonomics later, but you'll note that they finally dumped the finger grooves on the grips (good) and trimmed the silly heavy nose of the receiver. It is overall smoother and trimmer than it predecessors.



Glock 19 Gen 5 9mm

You can buy this for about \$560

Glock 19 Gen 5 Specs but you do get three magazines as opposed to two with the Smith and Sig.

Caliber: 9x19MM

Length: 7.28"

Height: 5.04"

Width: 1.34"

Barrel: 4.02" – 1:9.84" RH twist – Blued.

Trigger: 5 to 6.5 pounds.

Sights: Polymer "U" dot configuration, rear adjustable (standard)

Weight: 23.99 oz. w/empty magazine.

Capacity: 15 + 1

SIG SAUER P320 CARRY 9MM

And last we have the Sig Sauer 320 carry, also meant to compete directly with the Glock 19 and the M&P 9C 2.0. I have read much about this pistol, as it has secured a huge military contract. It beat out Glock and the Smith primarily because it is a modular pistol. It is a high quality pistol like the two above and I would expect it's life expectancy to match the other two. I do not give more credit to a modular platform however, because I do not have military needs or mindset. Nor do I have a thousand armors at my beck and call. To me this is not an attractive gun, more like a cement block in my minds eye. On the other hand, who cares for an IWB carry piece?



Sig 320 Carry

You can buy this for about \$575

Family: P320 Series

Model: P320 Carry

Type: Semi-Auto Pistol

Action: Striker fired

Finish: Nitron

Stock frame: Polymer Frame

Stock grips: Polymer

Weight: 26 oz.

Caliber:/GAUGE: 9mm

Capacity: 15+1

2 mags

Magazine desc: 15 rd.

Barrel: 3.9"

Overall length: 7.2"

Sights: SIGLITE Night Sights

Additional Info: 1913 Picatinny Rail Full Size Grip; Compact BBl/Slide

I am 5'10", 175 lbs., and wear medium gloves sizes. All pistols with adjustable back straps seem to fit me best with the medium back strap. All three pistols are set up thus.

My first step was to clean all three pistols and wet lube all with Slip 2000 heavy. I gave it two days to penetrate to all parts, and then cycled and trigger pulled each one 40 times. This was to familiarize myself with each trigger, and to set the guns up for initial trigger pull measurements.

Ten measurements each gave me an average trigger pull of 7.25 pounds for the Sig, 6.25 for the Glock, and 5.25 for the S&W. I didn't expect quite that high a pull for the Sig, nor quite so low on the S&W, but there you have it. I will re-measure after several hundred rounds have been through each.

I measured take-up also. The take-up in all three guns is a bit gritty, but then it always is with new striker fired.

While quite heavy, the Sig has the shortest take-up at 1/8th inch! Let-off a bit spongy for my taste.

The M&P trigger has a much longer take-up but a crisper let-off than the other two.

Longer (1/4 in inch) reset though.

The Glock trigger at this point comes in 3rd in my view. A good short 3/16" take-up, a quite spongy let-off, but a very decent re-set. Measurements were all attempted at the center of the triggers.

For sights, the Glock makes the mark with the best front sight which appears to be an Ameriglo. It is bright, and big, the way a battle sight should be.

I should probably rate the Sig sights second best because they are tritium. They are much smaller than they should be however for serious work.

The M&Pc sights are rugged, but plain white dot. Large, like they should be, but pretty useless in dark conditions. Great in daylight, but that's not good enough. They'll be replaced with TFO's if I keep it. Last place.

Grip stippling on all three feels OK with the Sig and Smith most alike. Not having shot these pieces my first impression is that the S&W will be the most aggressive, with the SIG in followup.

All three companies stand behind their pistols.

Next Chapter - off to the range.

I decided that hauling three pistol cases, a camera, notebook and pen, several hundred rounds of ammo, and a range bag with targets and the kitchen sink in it would be too awkward. So I put all into a rifle case and there you have it. Note the box of L.E. duty rounds. All three have to operate flawlessly with this ammo, right out of the box, or right back into the box they go! 147 grain Winchester T series.



I am done my range sessions. The first point I would like to make is that I will NEVER again review more than two weapons at a time. Doing three is crazy, and your note taking has to be constant to remember which did what poorest/best! Each pistol consumed about 500 rounds. They were not cleaned during this review. And for the bored, let me state at this point that all three pistols functioned perfectly, with all ammunition. Zero malfunctions of ANY sort occurred. I did not drop these pistols from a plane over a cement runway at 400 miles an hour. I did not pack them with mud and let it thoroughly dry before testing. I did not bury them in the ocean for a year. I know, I know any REAL test would require all of those. But I did shoot them with NATO, Duty Ranger T Series and Federal ball ammo. I shot them limp wristed. I shot them upside down, laying on the right, and laying on the left. These are reliable to the true meaning of the word. If that is your main criteria for an EDC, then pick any of the three.

I began the first session with the duty 147 Winchester T-Series we carry. All shot this round well, though the SIG had significantly more perceived recoil than the other two. This in spite of the two oz. additional weight over the Glock and Smith.



I followed this with the high pressure NATO rounds. All fed this through with no problems. The SIG did not care for it in the accuracy department though, and again the recoil was VERY pronounced.

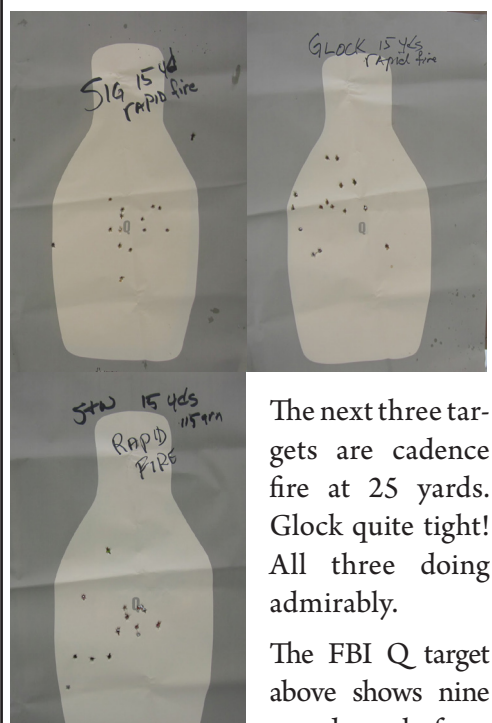
Next below are the 10 yard 115 ball ammo targets. Glock nails it, Sig and Smith lag. Now I want to emphasize,



I am not target shooting. I am cadence shooting here. All three of these pistols will shoot 2-3 inch groups at 25 yards all day long from sandbags/vice/factory. Already been proven a dozen times. What we are looking for here, is the best overall EDC where you must be able to shoot accurately and quickly if needed.

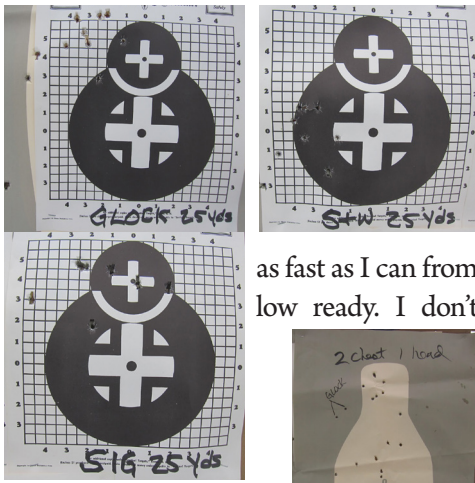
Backing out to 15 yards, still cadence fire. No material difference that I can discern, though the Sig still has to be held with a bit more authority than the others.

Ok, time for rapid fire at 15 yards. Rapid fire to me is shooting as fast as you can, and still stay on target. Staccato fire if you will. All three performed but the S&W and Glock are a bit more spread than the SIG. On the other hand I had two misses with the Sig.



The next three targets are cadence fire at 25 yards. Glock quite tight! All three doing admirably.

The FBI Q target above shows nine rounds each from each pistol two to the chest, one to the head three times each. I am at 10 yards shooting



as fast as I can from low ready. I don't

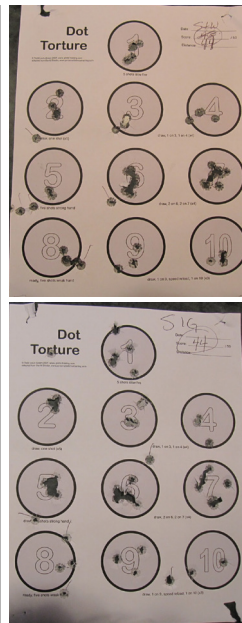
have holsters for these guns. One miss Glock and one miss Sig.

These torture dot tests are interesting. Because I am new to these pistols I did the torture at three yards. Out of 50 possible I got 46 with the Glock, and 44 each with the Sig and Smith.

These tests require weak hand only shooting, strong hand only shooting, and 8 other exercises. It is an excellent exercise. One thing I discovered is that Sig is VERY controllable with one hand. Perhaps that IS the weight advantage? The first dot is a two-handed five shot string. Glock and Smith nail it.

My third and last range session was at the steel plate range. I shot the six plates from 15 yards, but discovered the battery is dead in my shot timer. But I learned that all three pistols were fast and easy on plates. I did magazine after magazine and all were easy. I could tell here though that carrying a Glock 19 on duty did assist me here. All three pistols shot the man steel, the 16 inch steel and the 6-inch steel at 25 yards with no problem. So, what is my take? Here are some pros and cons for each pistol.

Sig 320 — A finely built pistol with arguably the best trigger. It has the heaviest pull, (still 7.5 lbs.) but the shortest take



up and shortest re-set. (you'll only care when at the range people...) I did find that I had to consciously raise my finger up into the saddle of the trigger to avoid the sharp curve at the end of it. Like the Glock, it has that silly squared off trigger guard. Heaviest pistol, but with noticeably more recoil with all loads than the others. Go figure. Easiest to shoot rapidly one handed. The best grip stippling midway between the Glock and Smith. About perfect. Last four rounds are a bear to load in it's magazine (no Honey, I don't use a mag loader). It is a wonderful gun, but feels bigger and blockier than the other two. Accessory rail way overstated for an EDC. Better suited as a duty gun in full rig than an IWB. It has terrible sights. They are tritium night sights, but small and the most difficult to acquire rapidly. I liked it a ton, but won't bother to buy one. In short, Fugly, and Functional.

S&W M&P 9c 2.0 — another very well designed battle pistol, well engineered and accurate. Ergonomically (to me) the best of the three. Second best trigger. (still 5.5 lbs.) Nicely rounded trigger guard. Battle accurate. Easiest slide to retract and easiest mags to load (after you get that first nasty round started, thank you). Large white dot sights, great in the daylight at the range. Totally inadequate for a life saving instrument. TFO's going on it. There goes the 100 dollar price advantage! Grip stippling is a bit too aggressive for me, especially the back strap. I will mellow that with sandpaper. If I did not shoot quite so much I would leave it as is, but after 500 rounds, you really begin to notice

it. Seems to handle recoil a lot better than the Sig, and marginally better than the Glock. Also a bit overstated in the rail department. This would be a better pistol with the Glock rail set up. Overall, can't think of much to bitch about other than sights. A great pistol, and since I own it, I will begin to seriously train with it.

Glock Gen 5 19 — Rugged, reliable and will shoot forever. Pure Glock, and Gen 5 or not, I don't see much change in the way it shoots from other generations. If anything, it reminds me of the duty 17 Gen 1 we were issued some 33 years ago. Battle accurate, reasonably priced, and plenty of aftermarket goodies if that is your bag. This Glock had the best sights by far of the three. Not even close. The Ameriglo front sight is big, and in your eye in an instant. This sight, or a TFO would make the other two pistols significantly better shooters. (um, what did I just do to Glock?) Decent grip stippling, not as ergonomic overall as the other two. A bit outdated is what comes to mind around shot number 400. The biggest fault of this pistol, for me, is the trigger/trigger guard. For three decades I have shot Glocks heavily and since day one, I have always gotten a nasty blood blister right side of my trigger finger pad from dragging against the inside of the trigger guard on each trigger pull. If I take the time to raise my finger on the trigger with this gun it slows me down noticeably. Rapid fire quickly becomes painful. When you are thinking about your finger, rather than the front sight and trigger, you are off. It is one of the traits that sent me to my M&P's. I shot this one well, because I carry one on duty. Advantage Glock. I will not be taking a Glock Gen 5 pistol as my EDC or off-duty.

CONCLUSIONS

It would be an ideal world if everyone could shoot out these three pistols and then take their choice. And I will say, that if you own any one of these three

pistols, you needn't spend 600 bucks looking for a better one. They are all three excellent in their own way, and ALL are more than adequate battle pieces. But if I had none of them (I didn't) and shot them as I did this past week, I believe I would quickly purchase the S&W. It just feels better in my hand. The Sig is an immensely comfortable gun to shoot, but just a bit too big in some ways for EDC. The Glock is the Oldsmobile, The SIG is the Mercedes, and the Smith the GT Mustang. Which do YOU want to drive? 🌿

Jack Zeller



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Crotchets & Cogitations

And here we are at the end of a decade and a good time to consider where we've been thus far. My own tenure as a member at Ferry Brook Range began around 12 years ago and in that time, I have seen many changes in the physical development of the property and in the faces that make up our membership. As I reviewed the old "safety video" online, I was stunned by just how much we have changed and the progress we now enjoy.

As we look forward to what 2020 brings, let us remember that we stand on the shoulders of those who have gone before us. Our membership has aged, we have lost some dearly loved friends and have developed new friends. I guess, this is how life is. Those of us who are left, continue to grow and carry on to make new changes. That is, the way it should be. Let us not forget our friends and to remember them as we continue the work of our Range.

We have scheduled our ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING to February 11th with a renewed hope of gaining a quorum at the meeting. Please be there. If we do not have a quorum of the membership at this meet-

ing, then all decisions revert to the Board of Directors. We sincerely request your presence and participation in the process of making decisions that you are in favor of.

On behalf of the Range and the RSOs that help us maintain safety at the Range, please observe the safety rules of each of the Ranges you use and ALWAYS...

1. Consider any fire arm to be loaded and kept pointed in a safe direction;
2. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot;
3. KNOW your target and what is beyond it;
4. Wear eye and ear protection when on a "hot" Range.

Before going down range on the 50/100/200 ranges, please make sure that all firing has ceased (verify that all shooters have stopped shooting, have their firearms cleared with a chamber flag in the chamber, and have stepped back from them. No one is to touch a firearm when people are down range). Use BOTH flags. When all have returned to the firing line and before it is "hot" (in use) take the flags down.

Safe and happy shooting in the New Year. 🌿

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