

SIDEBAR for 2017 Boop Shoot Loading at the Range...Then and Now

In benchrest shooting for group, loading at the range has been de rigueur for decades. In the Score discipline, preloading is usually the custom. The reason being, is that in Score only one aggregate (warm-up match and five record targets) per day is usually shot. That that would be less than 50 shots assuming a few sighter shots. Also, the 30BR cartridge is amenable to pre-loading. The Group discipline, however, is 21 targets (two warm-ups and twenty record targets) over a weekend, usually with the 6PPC. Many times, the 6PPC shooters may tweak their loads through the day given changing atmospheric conditions or simply trying to find the correct 'tune' to 'dot up'. "Dot up" means the shots are, essentially, going through the same hole, or closely so.

Loading at the range was a bit different when benchrest competition was in its infancy. The 1951 book, Modern Accuracy by Bob Wallack, is the best of the early benchrest books. Copies can be found, from time to time, on eBay or Alibris. It is a fascinating survey of benchrest as it existed at the time, even coverage of a controversial target that was argued over at the time. In it, there is a photo of Wallack using the rear bumper of a car at the bench to clamp his reloading tools. Things have come a long way compared to the range loading set ups of modern shooters.

These photos show the Wallack photo from 1950 and three of the loading areas seen in June 2017 at Weikert, PA. Those shown here are of top shooters Howie Levy, Bob Hamister and Kent Harshman.

31st Annual Memorial Match at Union County Sportsmen's Club Weikert, PA June 10-11, 2017 *Reported by Jeff Stover*

The "Boop Shoot" is traditionally shot on Mother's Day in May, but this year it was moved to June due to a club conflict. No matter, as 63 shooters showed up on June 10 and 11 to compete at one of the best benchrest ranges in the country. "Weikert" is nestled in a narrow valley in pastoral central PA and has a wide following since the IBS Nationals have been held there a number of times.

Accuracy gunsmith Dave Bruno won the 2-gun with a .2606 aggregate. On Dave's heels was Al Auman and Paul Mitchell. A 2-gun is all the marbles for a weekend of shooting. That would be the average group size for 20 targets. Ten targets at 100-yard and 200-yards for both the Light Varmint (10.5#) and Heavy Varmint (13.5#) classes. Despite the class distinctions based solely on rifle weight, a vast majority of shooters opt for a 10.5# rifle for the entire course of fire. You get a lot of shooting at an IBS registered group match.

The real story of this match was the shooting conditions. For the entire weekend, there was a tail wind. When the wind blows hard, a pure tailwind is favored by many veteran shooters as velocity changes are less apparent on the target compared to, say a pure crosswind where pickups and letups can be mapped on the record target of a less than observant trigger puller. At this match, it was a tailwind from hell. The over the shoulder wind veered from red (right to left) to green (left to right) as quickly as it took you to read this sentence. The point of impact in the extremes could cause groups of 1.5 inches at 200-yards. It was one of those shoots that posting a .824" 200-yard group could move you up in the standings. Normally shooting an "eight" would assure a finish very far down the standings.

Sunday morning the nefarious tailwind was doing its dirty work but it was not quite as bad at the afternoon was to become. Its impact, though, could be seen in the fact that the Heavy Varmint 200-yard winner was upstate NY shooter, Jim Miller with a .2817 (200-yard aggregates are recorded in MOA, so Jim's average group at 200-yards was .563"). He was the only one in the "twos"; Bob White shot well but his .3012 was not enough.

Light Varmint 200 was shot after lunch. The winds had picked up while the shooters were enjoying burgers and hot dogs from the range house. This last aggregate of the weekend was the climax of the weekend. Two-gun winner Dave Bruno set the stage for his overall wind by shooting as if he were from another planet from the rest of the field. He was on fire with a .2388 aggregate. Next was Bob Brushingham with a .3024. That is a difference of .0636" in average group size, or about 1/16th of an inch. A sixteenth is not much in most things, but in short range benchrest it is a chasm that Evel Knievel would not dare to test. Most aggregates in benchrest are won and lost by a few thousands, or even ten-thousands of an inch. Dave blew out the field with his singular performance. When asked what condition he shot, Dave said "the tailwind"... go figure.

Yes, 100-yard was contested. Back in the day, a "teen agg" (an aggregate of targets under .200") was usually shot in perfect, or mild, readable conditions. The level of shooting in recent years, however, has seen "teen aggs" shot in tough conditions. The aforementioned tailwind prevailed on Saturday too, but was just a bit less nasty.

Light Varmint 100 was won by veteran Howie Levy (he started shooting in 1968!) with a .1794. He was not alone below .2, as Dale Boop was close at .1848. He was shooting Norma 201 to boot. This powder was the ticket to small 6PPC groups in the 1980s, but has been little seen for many years.

31st	MEMORIAL	SHOOT.	UNION	COUNTY	BENCHREST,	WEIKERT	PA	06/10/17	to	06/11/17	
------	----------	--------	-------	--------	------------	---------	----	----------	----	----------	--

ring offering offering		and a second second		,											
			LIGHT	VARMINT	-HEAN	/Y VARMIN	T TWC) GUN AGGREGAT	ſΕ						
				Light V	armin	nt				Heavy Va	rmin	t		TWO	GUN
		100	yd	200	yd	GRAN	D	100	yd	200	yd	GRAN	D	GRAI	D
	NAME	AGG	PL	AGG	PL	AGG	PL	AGG	PL	AGG	PL	AGG	PL	AGG	PL
KEITH MORRIS*		0.2604	23	0.4505	40	0.3555	32	0.3092	41	0.4439	29	0.3765	30	0.3660	30
BILL BRAWAND*		0.3282	50	0.5016	48	0.4149	50	0.3436	52	0.5103	40	0.4269	43	0.4209	48
		KEITH MORRIS*	NAME AGG KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604	100 yd NAME AGG PL KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23	Light V 100 yd 200 <u>NAME AGG PL AGG</u> KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505	Light Varmin 100 yd 200 yd NAME AGG PL AGG PL KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40	Light Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAN <u>NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG</u> KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555	Light Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAND <u>NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL</u> KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32	Light Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 <u>NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL AGG</u> KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32 0.3092	100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32 0.3092 41	Light Varmint Heavy Va 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd 200 NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL AGG KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32 0.3092 41 0.4439	Light Varmint Heavy Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd 200 yd NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32 0.3092 41 0.4439 29	Light Varmint Heavy Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd 200 yd GRAND NAME AGG PL AGG PL AGG PL AGG KEITH MORRIS* 0.2604 23 0.4505 40 0.3555 32 0.3092 41 0.4439 29 0.3765	Light Varmint Heavy Varmint 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd 200 yd GRAND NAME AGG PL	Light Varmint Heavy Varmint TWO 100 yd 200 yd GRAND 100 yd 200 yd GRAND

31st MEMORIAL SHOOT, UNION COUNTY BENCHREST, WEIKERT PA 06/10/17 to 06/11/17 LIGHT VARMINT-HEAVY VARMINT TWO GUN AGGREGATE Top 20

1	225	DAVID BRUNO*	0.2604
2	121	AL AUMAN*	0.2727
3	221	PAUL MITCHELL*	0.2776
4	110	BOB BRUSHINGHAM*	0.2851
5	124	KENT HARSHMAN*	0.2969
6	102	JIM MILLER	0.3001
7	227	ALLEN ARNETTE*	0.3025
8	107	BOB WHITE	0.3039
9	204	JEFF PEINHARDT*	0.3047
10	214	WAYNE UTCHELL*	0.3114
11	127	SMILEY HENSLEY*	0.3117
12	224	DALE BOOP*	0.3165
13	111	BOB HAMISTER*	0.3206
14	209	WILLIE BAUER*	0.3265
15	108	HOWARD LEVY*	0.3275
16	125	MILT CRAVEN*	0.3306
17	119	KEVIN DONALDS* JR	0.3311
18	116	DONALD POWELL*	0.3332
19	120	RON BURDICK	0.3337
20	123	JEFF STOVER	0.3405

				Light Va	rmint Grand	Aggregate	Top 10 Equ	liment L.	ist				
	name	caliber	action	barrel	gunsmith s	stocker	scope po	ower	case	loa	ad	bullet	primer
D.	BRUNO*	6ррс	Borden	Hart	D. Bruno	HUNTER	Weaver	46X	LAPUA	29.8g	133	CONAWAY 68g	205
Α.	AUMAN*	6PPC	BAT	KREIGER	GOODLING	MCMILLION	LEUP	45X	220RL	28.49	LT32	SELF 66g	205
Ρ.	MITCHELL*	6PPC	BAT 3L	BARTLEIN	SCOTT	SCARBOURGH	VALDATA	36X	LAPUA	29.7g	N133	SELF 64g	205M
S.	HENSLEY*	6PPC	STOLLE	HART	ARNETTE	LEONARD	VAL DATA	36X	LAPUA	30.09	V133	AUMAN 66g	FED205
8.	BRUSHINGHA	M 6PPC	PANDA	KREIGER	D.BEAVER	KELBLY	LEUP	45X	LAPUA	28.3g	LT32	BERGER 65g BT	205
F.	CLINE*	6PPC	PANDA	BARTLIEND	ARNETTE	KELBY	MARSH	60X	LAPUA	29.69	N133	ARNETTE 68g	FED
С.	JEFFERS*	6PPC	STOLLE	BOSTLINE	GUTTERGUNS	KELBY	LEUP	40X	LAPUA	29.59	8208	AUMAN 66g	FED
D.	800P*	6PPC	BAT	HART	GOODLING	TRUTT	NF	42X	LAPUA		201N	CONAWAYS	FED
J.	PEINHARDT*	6	BAT	KREIGER	SELF	SCOVILLE	LEUP	45X	LAPUA	30.3g	V133	PEINHARD 65g	FED205
D.	BURDICK	6PPC	BORDEN	SHERWOOD	SHERWOOD	BORDEN	LEUP	45X	LAPUA	28.8g	T32	AUMAN 66g	FED
		31st MEMOR	RIAL SHOOT,	UNION CO	UNTY BENCHR	EST, WEIKER	T PA 06,	/10/17 to	0 06/11	/17			

				Heavy Va	rmint Grand	Aggregate	Top 10 Eq	uiment L	ist			
	name	caliber	action	barrel	gunsmith	stocker	scope p	ower	case	load	bullet	primer
J.	MILLER	6PPC	PANDA	KREIGER	MILLER	HUNTER	MARCH	55X	LAPUA			
8.	WHITE	6PPC	BAT 3L	BRUX	B.WHITE	LARSON	MARCH	10-60X	LAPUA	28.8g N133	BART 68g	205M
A.	ARNETTE*	6PPC	BAT	BARTLEIN	ARNETTE	LEONARD	MARCH	40X	LAPUA	29.0g 133	ARNETTE 68g	205
A.	AUMAN*	6PPC	BAT	KREIGER	GOODLING	MC MILLION	LEUP	45X	220R	28.4g LT32	SELF 66g	205M
Κ.	HARSHMAN*	6PPC	HART 1A	HART	SCHUCKERS	GOODLING	LCS	45X	LAPUA	133	GENERIC	WSR
ρ.	MITCHELL*	6PPC	BAT 3L	BARTLEIN	SCOTT	SCARBOURGH	VALDATA	36X	LAPUA	29.7g N133	SELF 64g	205M
D.	BRUNO*	6PPC	BORDEN	HART	D.BRUNO	HUNTER	WEAVER	46X	LAPUA	29.89 133	CONAWAY 68g	205
8.	BRUSHINGHA	M 6PPC	PANDA	KREIGER	D.BEAVER	KELBLY	LEUP	45X	LAPUA	28.3g LT32	BERGER 65g BT	205
Μ.	CRAVEN*	6PPC	RIMROCK	KREIGER	D.BRUNO	HUNTER	N.FORCE	42X	LAPUA	29.3g 8202	EUBER 67g	FED
J.	PEINHARDT*	6	BAT	KREIGER	SELF	SCOVILLE	LEUP	45X	LAPUA	30.3g V133	PEINHART 65g	205M

			n	0	A		Ten 20		
			Varmint	Grand	Aggreg	ace	10p 20	0.0500	
1	102	JIM MILL						0.2582	
2	107	808 WHIT						0.2622	
3	227	ALLEN AR						0.2706	
4	121	AL AUMAN						0.2737	
5T	124	KENT HAR						0.2782	
5T	221	PAUL MIT	CHELL*					0.2782	
7	225	DAVID BR	UNO*					0.2833	
8	110	808 8RUS	HINGHAM*					0.2890	
9	125	MILT CRA	VEN*					0.2954	
10	204	JEFF PEI	NHARDT*					0.2984	
11T	209	WILLIE B						0.3074	
11T	214	WAYNE UT						0.3074	
13	111	BOB HAMI						0.3208	
14	108	HOWARD L						0.3242	
14	120	RON BURD						0.3263	
								0.3338	
16	103	HARLEY B							
17	224	DALE BOO						0.3359	
18	119	KEVIN DO		K				0.3361	
19	127	SMILEY H						0.3432	
20	116	DONALD P	OWELL*					0.3530	
		,	d Heavy	Varm.	int Agg	rega	ite Top		
1	227	ALLEN AR	NETTE*					0.1686	
2	108	HOWARD L	EVY*					0.1808	
3	209	WILLIE B	AUER*					0.1980	
4	225	DAVID BR						0.2032	
5	221	PAUL MIT						0.2036	
6	101	CHRIS FE						0.2074	
7	110	BOB BRUS		<i>,</i>				0.2140	
8	124	KENT HAR						0.2142	
9	124	AL AUMAN						0.2142	
, 10	107	BOB WHIT						0.2232	
10	107		L 1					V.22J2	
		200 var	d Heavy	Varm	int Ann	rons	te Ton	10	
4	100	JIM MILL		Y Q I III	THE HAA	1090	ice Top	0.2817	
1	102							0.3012	
2	107	BOB WHIT							
3	121	AL AUMAN						0.3305	
4	125	MILT CRA						0.3330	1000 N 10 1000
5	124	KENT HAR						0.3421	
6T	103	HARLEY 8						0.3466	
6T	111	BOB HAMI						0.3466	
8	221	PAUL MIT	CHELL*					0.3528	
9	204	JEFF PEI	NHARDT*					0.3592	
10	225	DAVID BR	UNO*					0.3635	
		ł	leavy Var	mint	Match W	inne	ers		
	1	.00 yard					200 y	ard	
w/u					w/u	Μ.	CRAVEN*		0.248
#1	D. 80)0P*	0.13	28	#1	Κ.	HARSHMA	N*	0.319
#2		NETTE*	0.0		#2		BRUSHIN		0.273
#3	D. 89		0.1				MILLER		0.222
#4		CHELL*	0.0				ARNETTE	*	0.282
#5		JMAN*	0.1		#5		MILLER		0.425
πJ			Vil		μv		1 1 as las las las 1 1		
	CMS	ll group					small g	roup	
		NETTE*	0.09	Á		T	MILLER	i vup	0.222
	H. HKI		0.09	1		J.	HILLLN		V.222

Light Varmint Grand Aggregate Top 20 225 DAVID BRUNO* 0.2375 1 121 AL AUMAN* 0.2717 2 3 221 PAUL MITCHELL* 0.2770 127 0.2803 SMILEY HENSLEY* 4 5 110 **BOB BRUSHINGHAM*** 0.2811 0.2946 216 6 FLOYD CLINE* 7 222 CHRISTOPHER JEFFERS* 0.2956 224 DALE BOOP* 0.2970 8 0.3110 9 204 JEFF PEINHARDT* 0.3126 10 122 DEVIN BURDICK 0.3135 116 DONALD POWELL* 11 0.3150 12 218 DON JEFFERS* 13 214 WAYNE UTCHELL* 0.3154 0.3155 14 124 **KENT HARSHMAN*** 0.3181 15 115 HENRY MILLER* 123 JEFF STOVER 0.3185 16 0.3205 17 111 **BOB HAMISTER*** 18 105 ANDY LAIDLAW* 0.3222 0.3254 19 228 DON FRANCIS* 0.3260 20 119 KEVIN DONALDS* JR 100 yard Light Varmint Aggregate Top 10

		too Agio ridur Agimtur addiede	are toh	10
1	108	HOWARD LEVY*		0.1794
2	224	DALE BOOP*		0.1848
3	127	SMILEY HENSLEY*		0.2062
4	221	PAUL MITCHELL*		0.2092
5	121	AL AUMAN*		0.2154
6	120	RON BURDICK		0.2214
7	227	ALLEN ARNETTE*		0.2216
8	216	FLOYD CLINE*		0.2342
9	123	JEFF STOVER		0.2356
10	101	CHRIS FERREIRA*		0.2360

200	yard	Light	Varmint	Aggregate	Top	10	
-----	------	-------	---------	-----------	-----	----	--

1	225	DAVID BRUNO*	0.2388
2	110	BOB BRUSHINGHAM*	0.3024
3	228	DON FRANCIS*	0.3180
4	121	AL AUMAN*	0.3280
5	214	WAYNE UTCHELL*	0.3380
6	222	CHRISTOPHER JEFFERS*	0.3388
7	221	PAUL MITCHELL*	0.3448
8	115	HENRY MILLER*	0.3464
9	127	SMILEY HENSLEY*	0.3545
10	216	FLOYD CLINE*	0.3550

light	Varmint	Match	Winners
LIMIL	ACTUTIO	nacon	MIL IIII OI O

	100 yard				200 yard	
w/u	A. ARNETTE*	0.103	w/u·			
#1	S. HENSLEY*	0.093	#1	Ρ.	MITCHELL*	0.380
#2	W. UTCHELL*	0.099	#2	D.	BURDICK	0.455
#3	D. POWELL*	0.129	#3	Β.	HAMISTER*	0.225
#4	P. HURLEY*	0.077	#4	S.	HENSLEY *	0.350
#5	C. JEFFERS*	0.130	#5	C.	FERREIRA*	0.298
	small group				small group	
	P. HURLEY*	0.077		8.	HAMISTER*	0.225

E

More teen aggs were shot at Heavy Varmint. Benchrest Hall of Fame shooter Allen Arnette recorded a tiny .1686. On the podium with Allen were Howie Levy with a .1808 and Willie Bauer who shot a .1980.

The 2017 Annual Memorial shoot ran like clockwork-as usual. The success of this annual shoot can be attributed to the Trutt and Boop families. Mark Trutt serves as range officer extraordinaire. Dale Boop is match director while his mother, Linda, handles the administrative and scoring chores. Target crew honcho Steve Dodge, once again, ensured a rapid and accurate changing of the target. There were no range officer announcements of "target crew check #35, the competitor number is not right".

It has yet to be determined whether 2018 Memorial Match will be on Mother's Day or in June.

RESULTS:

Two-Gun

1	Dave Bruno	.2604
2	Al Auman	.2727
3	Paul Mitchell	.2776
4	Bob Brushingham	.2851
5	Kent Harshman	.2969

Heavy Varmint Grand

1	Jim Miller	.2582
2	Bob White	.2622
3	Allen Arnette	.2706

Heavy Varmint 100

1	Allen Arnette	.1686
2	Howie Levy	.1808
3	Willie Bauer	.1980

Heavy Varmint 200

1	Jim Miller	.2817
2	Bob White	.3012
3	Al Auman	.3305

Light Varmint Grand

1	Dave Bruno	.2375
2	Al Auman	.2717
3	Paul Mitchell	.2770

Light Varmint 100

1	Howie Levy	.1794
2	Dale Boop	.1848
3	Smiley Hensley	.2062

Light Varmint 200

1	Dave Bruno	.2388
2	Bob Brushingham	.3024
3	Don Francis	.3180

















Bob Wallack loading cases at Dubois match. This clearly demonstrates bumper bracket which can be made to fit any car. A most useful gimmick for the shooter.

Benchrest Shooters are the Best Loversl They can do it 5 times in a row all in the same Hole!