

2015 TSRA Service Rifle State Championships

If you weren't there, you missed the 'hottest rifle match of the year.' Once assembled, there was no looking back for all of these shooters. The line-up consisted of Texas residents and out-of-state shooters of all ages. Rifles used were AR15's, Garands and M1A's.

The event began with Team Day on Friday, and 11 teams settled in for competition. The first-place team was Three Germans & a Mutt, which shot an excellent score of "948- 61X. Team members included: Lee Eldridge, Justin Utley, Clay Hefner and Randy Scheibel. Team TSRA Copper, consisting of Kyle Hoelscher, Keith Stephens, Greg Troxell and Buddy Reich, scored 1931-51X to capture second. For the juniors, first place went to TSRA JR Gold with a score of 1892.41X. TSRA JR Gold team members were James Chesley, Madison Butler, Peter Miller and Eric McDaniels.

The individual matches began on Saturday. After the safety briefing, the Edgard cannon fired and colors were presented by none other than Ben Brooks. Then TSRA Executive Director Doug DuBois was presented with the match's prestigious First Shot Ceremony. Using a 1949 M1 Garand, DuBois set the standard by firing the first bulls-eye 'X' of the day at 200 yards. Great shot, Doug!

After the relays were finished at 600 yards, the results were tallied and presented. The 2015 State Service Rifle Championship was a close race to the finish, but Keith Stephens finished first overall, shooting a 784.27X out of a possible 800. Great Job, Keith!

The category winners were State Service Rifle Champion Keith Stephens (784.27X); High Woman Michelle Boyd (747.06X); High Junior James Chesley (756.12X); High Senior Larry Chapman (761.12X); and High Military Shawn Taylor (761.17X).

The High Class winners were Lee Eldridge (777.27X), first-place; Buddy Reich (775.16X), second-place; and Justin Utley (773.15X), third-place. In the Master Class were Rusty Toussaint (767.18X), first-place; Greg Troxell (761.16X), second-place; and Jerry Iliff (760.15X), third-place.

Results for the combined Expert Class/Sharpshooter/ Marksman were Larry Chapman (761.12X), first-place; Sean Keene (748.13X), second-place; Madison Butler (744.16X), third-place.

From this match the elite group of 'Governor's Top 20' shooters were selected. Starting with first in ranked score: Keith

Stephens, Lee Eldridge, Buddy Reich, Justin Utley, Clay Hefner, Randy Scheibel, Rusty Toussaint, Kyle Hoelscher, Shawn Taylor, Greg Troxell, Larry Chapman, Jerry Iliff, Darren Chapman, James Chesley, John Ilzhoefer, Mitch Hogg, Dan Pate, Mike Larkin, Sean Keene and Michelle Boyd.

The CMP - Excellence in Competition Match, held on Sunday, typically defines most competitors. Regardless of the conditions, it is fired cold bore with no sighting shots. Shooters must know their gun, ammo and have the concentration needed to be among the very top in order to place for the leg points

needed to 'leg out' and receive the highly coveted Distinguished Rifleman's Badge.

The Top Non-Distinguished shooters recorded were Lee Eldridge (485.13X), first-place; Darren Chapman (475.12X), second-



place; Madison Butler (469.10X), third-place; Rusty Toussaint (468.07X) fourth-place; Ricardo Nunez (467.05X), first leather.

With this match, Darren Chapman has 'legged out' and will receive his Distinguished Riflemans Badge. We will see you on stage at Camp Perry, Darren. Congratulations! And for being first leather Nunez won a Giraud Tool brass trimmer, donated by Doug Giraud CEO of Giraud Tools (www.giraudtool.com).

I would like to give thanks to the many folks that helped with this match. Charlie Wallace (Pit Boss), Dave Keys (Line Boss), Dave Wilson (Deputy Match Director), Ken Gaby (Line Official). Plus an official Thank You to the Bayou Rifles gun range and personnel Glen Edgard for hosting our match. Many thanks to the military personnel that attended as you are always welcome. Thank you for your service to our Great Nation!

— Karl Schultz, TSRA Service Rifle Director