

L. E. JURRAS' AUTO MAG

Vol. 2, No. 14/May 1975

# NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Club de Auto Mag Internationale, Inc.

## Rotary Bolt



by LEE E. JURRAS

### ANNOUNCING NATIONAL HANDGUN METALLIC SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Club de Auto Mag Internationale, Inc. is sponsoring the 1st NATIONAL HANDGUN METALLIC SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS. This championship shoot will take place September 20th & 21st, at the THREE POINTS SHOOTING FACILITY, near Tucson, Arizona.

In order to achieve proper recognition of the sporting and hunting value of handguns, the competition is open to all hunting type pistols and revolvers of 357 magnum caliber and larger; using metallic sights. NO shoulder stocks or artificial rests will be allowed.

The three points shooting facility is 23 miles west of I-19 on Highway 86, Friday afternoon, September 19th the range will be open for those competitors wanting to shoot warm-up matches and/or sighting in.

For those competitors wishing to rough it! The Three Points range has facilities for trailers, campers and tents; with utility hook-ups, hot showers and flush toilets. Food and refreshments will be available at the range. The Tucson area is a real vacationland; within a 20 minute drive of the Three Points Shooting Facility is the old Tucson

movie location, the Arizona Sonora Desert Museum and the Kitt Peak National Observatory, Naturally, there are many other nearby tourist attractions.

Trophies will be given to the first (10) ten places. Designated: "National Handgun Metallic Silhouette Champion;" runner-up, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th.

#### GENERAL PROCEDURE:

**Saturday, September 20th**, there will be four matches. Each match will consist of ten shots fired at a metallic silhouette target at each of the following distances: 50 meters, 100 meters, 150 meters, and 200 meters. Time allowed for each match will be announced by the match directors at a briefing just prior to the actual competition. Competitors may use different guns for each match if they so desire. However, only (1) one gun will be allowed during each individual match. NO ALIBIS. Failure of any part of the competitors gun or personal equipment will be considered the fault of the contestant and no re-play allowed. The competitor may fire from either off-hand, kneeling, sitting, or prone position. No artificial rest allowed.

**Sunday, September 21st**, one match against the clock. The competitor will start from a blind position, move approximately 20' - 30' and will see three metallic silhouette targets at unknown ranges, between 50 and 125 meters. The competitor is allowed as many shots as needed and as much time. Naturally, the fewest shots and the fastest time wins.

This National Handgun

Silhouette Match is patterned after the International Rifle Metallic Silhouette Matches and is designed to simulate handgun hunting conditions.

Entry deadline for mail entries September 7, 1975. No entries will be accepted at the range after the first match has commenced. To be eligible for trophies a competitor must fire in all events.

Match headquarters will be at the TUCSON INN, 127 W. Drachman; Take the speedway exit from I-10.

For reservations: You may contact the Tucson Inn direct

602-623-8531

or

Call:

Co-Match Director, Dutch Snow  
602-747-3277

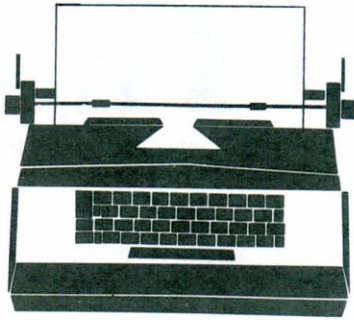
For additional entry information -

Club de Auto Mag  
Internationale, Inc.  
P.O. Box 846  
Roswell, New Mexico 88201  
505-623-7149

**NOTICE**  
EFFECTIVE 1 JULY, 1975, THE  
NEW ADDRESS FOR THE CLUB  
de AUTO MAG INTERNATION-  
ALE, INC. WILL BE P. O. BOX 846  
ROSWELL, N.M. 88201. ANY  
CORRESPONDENCE OR MEM-  
BERSHIP RENEWALS SHOULD  
BE SO ADDRESSED.



# Letters



Dear Lee:

I was quite pleased to receive your Auto Mag brochure and the November issue of the Club Newsletter recently. The .357 AMP data was particularly appreciated as was the brochure for reasons that follow.

Most of my shooting time for the last two months has been spent with the .30 Herrett in the Contender single shot. I have been quite impressed with its accuracy and range. I haven't had the opportunity to do any hunting with it yet so I haven't been able to form any valid opinion on its terminal behavior which makes my intuitive uneasiness about it all the less viable.

I grew up on the teachings of Elmer Keith and where handguns are concerned, I have always been a big bore man. Indeed, until I talked with you last spring, the only revolver or pistol that I had owned between .22 RF and .44 Caliber was a S&W Highway Patrolman and I traded it in on a S&W 1950 Target in .44 Special. However, your enthusiasm for the .357 AMP was too much for my low level of resistance when it comes buying another handgun. Now I don't consider myself an expert handloader, at least where forming and trimming are concerned, and since the .357 AMP is a high performance round and autoloaders are a bit more particular about what they're fed I thought I'd do my experimenting with a round that didn't

require high energies to function its pistol. So I turned to the Herrett.

As you know Bob Milek has been working on a .357 version of the Herrett and has had quite good success with it. He has based his loadings for the .30 Herrett rounds on rifle bullets since there are no pistol bullets available in the caliber. I have had to do the same and therein lies the basis for my uneasiness about the round and my inclination towards the .357 round. It seems to me that there is an inconsistency in expecting good expansion from a bullet at the low end of its velocity range shot after shot whereas it does not seem so inconsistent to expect it to expand at the upper end.

Of course, the effect of the lower velocity is negated somewhat by the shorter ranges at which shots are generally taken. Even so, in a gun being touted as effective to two hundred yards plus as the .30 Herrett is, it is stretching my expectations on the performance of the round.

I am not bothered nearly so much if at all, by the performance of a .357 pistol bullet at similar velocities and ranges because of the lighter nose construction and consequent greater expansion. However, I still have enough doubts about the performance of pistol bullets at the longer ranges (not to mention my own ability) that I feel the need for more than one round.

Therefore, I have decided to turn my attention, once again, to the .357 AMP. In considering the round and its pistol, I find myself facing a dichotomy; that of portability versus optimum performance. In its 6½ inch configuration the .357 AMP is still more massive than any other pistol or revolver on the market, excepting its .41 and .44 counterparts, and that includes the S&W .44 in 8 3/8's. My experience with the latter brought me down to the 6½ inch length as the

optimum compromise between the two factors. However, the .44 does not have the range capabilities of the .357 AMP, a fact that lessens somewhat my adverse feeling about carrying the extra weight, provided that I can utilize the extra range. As Kent Lomont commented in the second Newsletter, not many can; especially on the smaller targets such as rockchucks found here in Montana. So we turn to scoping the pistol. This reduces the portability still further.

I've resolved the conflict by deciding to go with the .357 AMP in the 6½ inch length for the larger stuff and the same caliber in the 10 inch barrel with a scope for varmits and situations where portability is not a problem. Scoping the 10 inch has kept me busy trying to figure a way to hang one on it. Then your Auto Mag Brochure arrived with a picture on the back showing you and George Nonte examining a scoped 10 inch model with a shoulder stock. What are the chances of obtaining a barrel extension of this half-rib configuration without the rear sight rails and the front sight blade? I'm reasoning that since the 10 inch is a special order affair that the above custom features might not be so unreasonable as requesting them on a regular order might be.

With a rib the problems of scoping are considerably less than they are without one. While the setup in the picture does not appear to utilize the Leupold two power as suggested by Lomont, that was the arrangement I had envisioned eventhough the Leupold is just about the heaviest scope that can be used on a pistol. I had considered the Hutson adapted to mount on the rear portion of the ribless barrel but the lack of magnification is a disadvantage. The Bushnell 2.5X Phantom is a possibility. Its lighter than the Leupold but I've never used one and I am familiar with the Leupold. Any comments you might have



would be appreciated.  
B. Burroughs, #016  
Bogeman, Mt.

#### Editor's Note:

Dear Ben,

Thanks for your most interesting letter. The basic problems you discussed have probably plagued the handgun hunter or serious handgun shooter/experimenter since someone decided handgunning was a sport. Thompson, Sharpe, Keith, Harvey, Yard to name but a few, have taken a crack at solving many of these problems. Thanks to these gentlemen, handgun hunters today have a wide choice in guns and loads.

Because we are a nation of specialists and have developed experts and professionals in all aspects of handgunning, we have a choice of revolvers, autoloaders, single shots, actions, triggers, sights, cartridges, propellants and bullets that were just a dream to handgunners of twenty short years ago. Each of these special groups has its following; big bore - small bore - scoped and unscoped - big game - medium game and varmint.

Because each group or category can be broken to a multitude of sub-categories, we finally arrive at a point of shall we say; hair splitting. One must not lose sight of the fact that **basically** handgun hunting is a short range game; sure we have our exceptions, and when scoped, certain big bore handguns are capable of fantastic feats, but they are the exception rather than the rule.

I have been fortunate enough to have taken some 125 head of medium and large game both here and abroad; with a variety of handguns and calibers; the Ruger Super Blackhawk, S&W 29, Colt Python, Thompson/Center in various calibers, Browning High Power and naturally the Auto Mag. In all honesty, I must admit in most instances, bullet placement rather than

gun or caliber was the difference between success or failure. I suppose I'm prejudice, but in nearly every case of those 125 head taken, it was with a projectile of my own design.

The high velocity -vs- heavy bullet schools of thought will probably never be resolved. I doubt that it need be, as long as one does not carry either school of thought to the extreme.

Back to your letter, with the exception of the largest game, both your choice and mine I see is the .357 Auto Mag in the 6½" version. It has been successful for me on everything from moose to steinbok. Portability and handling plus flat trajectory and a 137 gr. bullet at 1900 f.p.s. is a hard combination to beat.

With no intentions of downgrading the wheel gun or the single shot, I personally like the mystic of the self loader; a fascinating beast.

As far as scoping the Auto Mag, the M8-2X Leupold is the answer. With the exception of my Custom Model 200/International, pictured on the brochure, scoping the Auto Mag is still in the experimental stages. The titanium and stainless mounts on the Model 200/International are virtually custom made for each of the 25 guns, and their pricing would be prohibitive for the average Auto Mag shooter. Kent Lomont, 4421 S. Wayne, Fort Wayne, IN 46803, has available a somewhat less sophisticated designed base and rings in aluminum and stainless, which I think he markets in the \$100 range.

As far as a special rib goes, you are talking dollars. Basically Ben, what you are asking, I have built and offered in the L. E. JURRAS CUSTOM MODEL 200/INTERNATIONAL. (See Volume No. 1, No. 9 of the Auto Mag Newsletter.)

On the other end of the scale, the .44 AMP "Alaskan" (See August 1975 issue "Gun World" by club member Dean Grennell) offers the

epitome in short range, bone busting handgunnery. LEJ

Dear Editor,

You will find enclosed my check in the amount of \$10.00 to cover the cost of renewing my membership to your club. At this time now that the first year is over I feel it is only proper for me to congratulate you on your doing such a fine job with the newsletters. I believe that you have done a splendid job on your part and that much of the work has been nearly as innovative as the subject - The Auto Mag.

Sincerely,

E. Clive Willis, III  
Hickory, NC #222  
EDITOR'S NOTE

Thanks, Mr. Willis, for the vote of confidence. LEJ

Dear Editor,

Enclosed is a check for \$10.00. Please renew my membership for another year. Isn't \$10.00 per year a bit much for a three-page brochure each month? And then I have to purchase gun world to learn of the Alaskan model!

#### EDITOR'S NOTE

Thank you Mr. King for your renewal. Yes \$10.00 per year seems a bit high. But for our very specialized and rather small membership (700) it is a necessity. At the end of the first year we were still \$2,500 in the red. The purpose of the club is to offer tips and suggestions that make the Auto Mag owner feel that with the information received in only one or two of the newsletters that he has actually saved money. Sorry about you having to read the first report of the "Alaskan" in Gun World; what's wrong with buying Gun World Magazine? Managing editor, Mr. Dean Grennell is a dues paying club member and I promised him an **exclusive**. All kidding aside, Dean is an Auto Mag enthusiast and the next edition of the newsletter will give complete details on the 44 AMP "Alaskan".

Starting with the next issue, the newsletter is going to eight pages. Club members, this is your newsletter, so send photo's, stories, anything you think might be of interest to other club members. LEJ



# Classified

## FOR SALE Guns

T.D.E., El Monte Auto Mag, mint, S/N A05440, 44AMP - \$475.00. Contact Stephen K. Bonnet, 208 W. 3rd. St., Del Rio, TX 78840

North Hollywood .44 AMP, S/N A047XX, custom finish on frame, two mags plus mag pouch, RCBS dies plus case forming dies, mag-na-ported barrel, black sights, tuned trigger, clip depressor. \$500.00 plus shipping. Write John R. Sulzer # 0175, 156 S. Mulberry St., Chillothe, OH 45601

Original .44 AMP, stamped Auto Mag, Pasadena, CA. Low three digit serial number, excellent condition. Price is \$500.00 or best reasonable offer. Write: James T. Hale #0204, 250 N. Milledge, Athens, GA 30601.

Original Pasadena Auto Mag, fired 20 rounds. Many factory extras. Three digit serial number; best offer over \$800.00 Contact R. S. Beal, Beal's Bullets, 170 W. Marshall Road, Lansdowne, PA 19050

## FOR SALE Accessories

Heavy Leather Auto Mag Barrel Cases, designed to be worn on belt. With sight protector and full flap. Offers complete protection. Black or brown plain only. 6½ inch \$20.00, 8½ inch \$22.00 and 10½ inch \$24.00. Include \$1.50 for postage and handling. Available from Kent A. Lomont, LOMONT PRECISION BULLETS, 4421 South Wayne Ave., Fort Wayne, IN 46807

Blued, White Outline Rear Sight, \$18.50 exchange. Beal's Bullets #0152, 170 W. Marshall Road, Lansdowne, PA 19050

AUTO MAG: Tuning, accessories, and ammo. Loads your brass or mine, jacketed or cast. Write for current prices. Lomont Precision Bullets, 4421 S. Wayne, Ft. Wayne, IN 46807

AMMO FOR .357 and .44 AMP—Nine loads for each caliber. Guns, parts, repairs, accessories and tuning. Write for brochure to: Beal's Bullets, R.S. Beal, Jr. #0152. 170 W. Marshall Road, Lansdowne, PA 19050

AMP CLIP DEPRESSOR - Locks the magazine spring down for easy loading. Strong, light weight, stainless steel and aluminum construction; the clip depressor is a must. Postpaid at just \$7.50. each. Send check or money order to L. E. JURRAS & ASSOC., P. O. Box 163, Shelbyville, IN 46176

RETAINING RING TOOL - for easy replacement of safety plate of hold-open assembly on AMP. Postpaid \$10.95 L.E. JURRAS & ASSOC., P. O. Box 163, Shelbyville, IN 46176

RCBS .357 AMP Paper Crimp Dies \$12.00. Contact R. S. Beal, Beal's Bullets, 170 W. Marshall Road, Lansdowne, PA 19050

Custom Laminated Woodgrips for Colt Gov't. Model or Commander. \$19.50 per pr. prepaid. L. E. JURRAS & ASSOC., P. O. Box 846, Roswell, NM 88201


See our display of accessories at the 1st NATIONAL HANDGUN METALLIC SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS. Club de Auto Mag Int'l., Inc.

See our display of Auto Mags Standard and Prototypes at the 1st NATIONAL HANDGUN METALLIC SILHOUETTE CHAMPIONSHIPS—L. E. JURRAS & ASSOC.

## Wanted

Variations of the Auto Mag; Original Pasadena, North Hollywood, Jurras, High Standard, etc. Write Mike Mace, P.O. Box 302, Williamsburg, KY 40769

Variations of the Auto Mag; Original Pasadena, North Hollywood, Jurras, High Standard, etc. Call: Arnold O. Beck 405-236-3463



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