

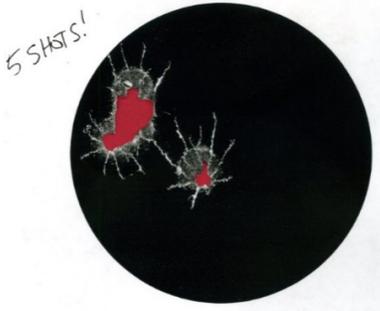


*The  
Delta Rifles  
Dispatch*



March 2016

Over the weekend of March 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Jason Hill, one of our new shooters, hosted an informal load workup session at his home in Clanton, Alabama. Bob Kelly, Steve Sheldon, Jason Sasser, and of course Jason Hill were there doing some bench work to try and get some skirmish-read loads. Steve Sheldon was trying out his new Moose 577-420 Wilkinson bullet, which turned out to be a resounding success using 50 grains of 3F Goex in his Whitacre-barreled P53 Enfield. When Josh tried them in his Enfield, he also enjoyed similar results, prompting the order of another mold from Moose Molds! Being a flat-bottomed bullet that deforms by compression rather than expansion, it is a very easy bullet to cast with no void problems, and being a double-cavity mold it's easy to really crank them out!



The Moose 577-420 performed great with 50 grains 3F Goex in a P1853 at 50 yards from a bench.

This month's skirmish was hosted by the 44<sup>th</sup> Georgia Volunteer Infantry at Brierfield Ironworks State Park, our usual venue. The weather was grim, with the rain setting in just as shooting got underway on Friday afternoon, and was off and on all day Saturday also. Individual shooting did not get underway on Saturday until about 9am due to the rain.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana had a fantastic turnout this month, with 8 shooters showing up!



Left to right: Ken Thornberry, Jim Wood, Steve Sheldon, Mike McAlpin Sr., Mike McAlpin Jr., Josh Sasser, Jason Hill, and Commander Bob Kelley.

In Individuals, Jason Hill took 1<sup>st</sup> place in 100-yard Musket and 1<sup>st</sup> place Musket Aggregate. He also took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 50-yard Carbine and 3<sup>rd</sup> place Carbine Aggregate. Our newest shooter, Josh Sasser, took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 100-yard Carbine. Steve Sheldon took 1<sup>st</sup> place 50-yard Musket, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 100-yard Musket, and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Musket Aggregate. He also took 3<sup>rd</sup> place 50-yard Carbine, 1<sup>st</sup> place 100-yard Carbine, and 1<sup>st</sup> place Carbine Aggregate. He also took 1<sup>st</sup> place in Musket-Carbine Aggregate. In Smoothbore he took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 50-yard Smoothbore, and 2<sup>nd</sup> place Smoothbore Aggregate. He also took 1<sup>st</sup> place in 25-yard Revolver, and 1<sup>st</sup> place Grand Aggregate. It was an impressive haul of individual medals for the 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana!



The 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana's newest shooter, Josh Sasser. Welcome aboard, Josh!

After a break for lunch, team competition got underway with the Carbine match. Steve Sheldon, Josh Sasser, Jason Hill, Mike McAlpin Jr., and Jim Wood banged away at the targets with great enthusiasm, finishing strong enough to merit a third-place win. Sadly medals were only awarded for first and second place. Commander Bob shot as a pick-up for another team.

After the Carbine match came the Smoothbore competition. Steve Sheldon was the only smoothbore shooter from the 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana, so he loaned himself out to the venerable Forrest Escort. If you miss a target shooting with the Forrest Escort you generally don't get a second shot at it as someone else will eat your lunch for you. And under that withering fire the Forrest Escort took first place for Smoothbore.

Saturday evening the team and family members met up at Steve Sheldon's ancient RV for a big pot of Jambalaya.

Sunday morning broke clear but crisp, with frost on many vehicles. Despite the chill, we were all very glad to see the rain gone and we attended opening ceremonies with good humor all around.



Opening Ceremonies.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana's musket team was made up of Josh Sasser, Jason Hill, Steve Sheldon, Mike McAlpin Sr., and Mike McAlpin Jr.. Commander Bob and Ken Thornberry loaned themselves out to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Georgia, while Jim Wood shot with yet another team. The 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana shot their way to a second-place win in Musket!



The 4<sup>th</sup> Louisiana's Musket Team in action!

Steve Sheldon made a trip down to Sanders Lead Company in Troy Alabama on Thursday night before the skirmish and picked up 5 60-pound pigs of lead for himself and various people on the team. At a dollar per pound, it's a deal for certified pure lead that can't be beat.

#### Upcoming Events

14th MS	Brierfield, AL	April 22-24, 2016
Spring Nationals	Winchester, VA	May 18-22, 2016
20th GA	Brierfield, AL	June 10-12, 2016
3rd GA	Brierfield, AL	Aug 27-28, 2016
Fall Nationals	Winchester, VA	October 5-9, 2016
Forrest Escort	Eva, TN	November 4-6, 2016

We look forward to seeing everyone next month again at Brierfield! If our team continues to shape up like it has been so far this year we might have a good shot at knocking Forrest Escort off of their usual first-place pedestal!

