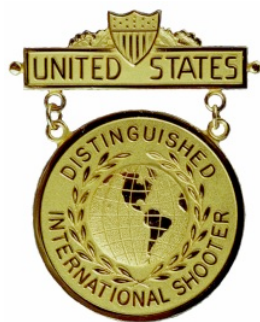




## A SHORT HISTORY OF US COAST GUARD COMPETITIVE SHOOTING



By  
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of  
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**Shoulder patch worn by the US Coast Guard Rifle and Pistol Team during the heydays of the 1930s**

Cover photo: Gunner's Mate First Class Peter Marcoux, Double Distinguished and Presidents Hundred, poses center with fellow members of the 1939 US Coast Guard Rifle and Pistol Team. Team and shoulder patch photograph courtesy of John Cook.

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## Forward

The one immutable truth about historical research is that few things are certain. Even in the most meticulously kept records there is always some “I” left undotted and some “T” left uncrossed that casts a cloud of doubt on the ‘facts’ at hand. Even though there is no institution more conscious of scrupulous record keeping than the armed forces, there is missing information. As a result, there are holes in the historical documents and records that tell the Coast Guard’s competitive marksmanship program’s story. Considering the nature of an imperfect record the reader must be aware that all information, listed in this work are used with this *caveat* and, as such, is subject to change as more detailed documented information becomes available.

There are gaps in the records of the Coast Guard’s competitive marksmanship program. Those little gaps make it impossible to write a complete and accurate story, and perhaps it is better that way. There is nothing like a little cloud of uncertainty in a historical tale to make it more interesting and to enhance legends and traditions.

The following document is an attempt to meld the many aspects of the Coast Guard’s competitive marksmanship program into a short historical synopsis. I owe debts of gratitude to the Civilian Marksmanship Program, the National Rifle Association, Charlie Adams, CWO3 (WEPS) Chad Barber, USCG, Chief of the Weapon Section, US Coast Guard Academy, Shawn Carpenter, John Cook, Dr. Richard Hawkins, Head Shooting Sports Coach, US Coast Guard Academy, David Lyman, Captain James McCauley, USCG, Commandant of Cadets, US Coast Guard Academy Paul Nordquist, Steve Rocketto, Jeff Sipes, Mark Sloan, William R. Wells, II, and LCDR David Ressel USCG (RET). To these people go all the credit, but none of the blame, for this work.

All rank and rate abbreviations are current usage. For example, in the 1930s a Gunner’s Mate First Class rate would be written as GM1c, I have used the contemporary GM1. There are several rates that no longer exist, Surfman (SURF) and Coxswain (COX), from the Coast Guard’s antecedent, the U.S. Life Saving Service, but have now become prestigious Coast Guard qualifications in their own right with distinctive insignia. These are used as appropriate.

In the interest of historical accuracy, the author solicits insights, corrections, and updates, particularly names and ranks/rates of individuals concerned at the time awards were made, which are supported by appropriate documentation, to 18 Stenton Avenue, Westerly, RI 02891.

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## A Short History of United States Coast Guard Competitive Shooting

The United States Coast Guard is the United States' oldest continuous maritime agency. Known by many names during its two centuries of existence, the Revenue Marine, the Revenue Cutter Service, the Lighthouse Service, the Steamboat Inspection Service, the Bureau of Navigation, and the Lifesaving Service; it came into its own in as the Coast Guard on January 28, 1915 when President Woodrow Wilson signed into law the "Act to Create the Coast Guard," passed by Congress on 20 January, 1915.<sup>1</sup>

During the watch of Commandant Rear Admiral Frederick C. Billard, perhaps one of the most forward-thinking men ever to hold the post, the Coast Guard's competitive shooting program took shape in 1928. Billard was urged on by Commander Russell R. Waesche, the Coast Guard's Chief of Ordnance; a man with a keen interest in small arms training. Waesche envisioned competitive shooting as the capstone of a service wide effort to improve the state of small arms training and skill. From frozen Arctic waters, where it enforced marine and fishery law, to the lengthy eastern seaboard and Gulf Coast, where it battled alcohol smuggling along "Rum Row", a Coast Guardsman's ability to use rifle and pistol was a vital military skill.<sup>2</sup>

Along with improved marksmanship skills throughout the fleet the pair also hoped to raise service pride and public awareness of, what was then, at just 13 years of age, the nation's youngest military service. The importance of these two men in the history of the Coast Guard in general and specifically Coast Guard marksmanship cannot be underrated. Their efforts were memorialized in 1958 with the establishment of two

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<sup>1</sup> :When was the Coast Guard established?" <http://www.uscg.mil/history/faqs/when.asp>

<sup>2</sup> Rocketto, Hap, *A Short History of the President's Hundred*, <http://www.thecmp.org>, 2013.

trophies in their honor for intra-service team competition: The Rear Admiral Frederick C. Billard Pistol and the Admiral Russell R. Waesche Rifle Trophies.<sup>3</sup>

As the importance of skill with small arms rose in priority Billard saw the need to squeeze some funds from the Coast Guard's 1928 budget to enter the National Matches for the first time. Until then Coast Guardsmen interested in competitive marksmanship had financed their shooting out of their own pockets or by passing the hat, relying on the generosity and team spirit of shipmates.<sup>4</sup>

The Coast Guard called upon the US Marine Corps to help train the nascent team. Along with the US Navy the three sea services prepared for the National Matches together at Wakefield, Massachusetts. The Marines had trained several Coast Guardsmen to a level where they could instruct their fellow team mates and it also detailed a few Marines to work with the Coasties.<sup>5</sup> The Massachusetts National Guard's Camp Curtis Guild, at Wakefield, was a popular training location as it was close to Boston's transportation hub, offered ample range facilities-it had a single firing line with target butts out to 1,000 yards with a tunnel to reach them so firing did not have to be interrupted by pit changes, warm days for shooting, cool nights for sleeping, and shooting conditions that approximated Camp Perry.<sup>6</sup> Additionally the facility hosted the New England Rifle Association matches, a major high power event of the time.

Concurrent with the rising emphasis on competition the Coast Guard's Distinguished program was established in 1929, a year after the service fielded its first team in the National Matches. Just one year after their first foray into competitive shooting Chief Gunner's Mate Walter Morrison and Lieutenant Harley Evans Grogan completed requirements for the Distinguished Marksman Badge in 1929. Lieutenant Commander William J. Kossler and Lieutenant Junior Grade Stanley C. Lindholm were the first to earn the Distinguish Pistol Shot Badge in 1931. Chief Boatswain's Mate Paul Goulden completed requirements for pistol Distinguished in 1932, two years after he earned the rifle badge, becoming the first Coast Guard Double Distinguished shooter. Lieutenant Leon H. Morine and Chief Warrant Officer Harold J. Williams each earned both badges in 1937, making them the first Coast Guardsmen to complete both badge requirements in the same year.<sup>7</sup>

Lieutenant Junior Grade Janine Lavalle Bowman earned her spot in Coast Guard shooting history when she 'went out' with the pistol in 1999, making her the first female Coast Guard shooter to earn the Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge. Bowman participated in collegiate shooting for three years while at the Coast Guard Academy, winning National Championship titles each year. She later distinguished herself as a world class

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<sup>3</sup> Ibid. page 87. Waesche would eventually rise to three and four star rank, the first Coast Guard officer to do so, on his way to the office of Commandant where he had the longest tenure in that post of any incumbent.

<sup>4</sup> Wells II, William, R., *Shots That Hit A Study of U.S. Coast Guard Marksmanship 1790-1985*, United States Coast Guard Historian's Office, Washington DC, 1993. Page 47.

<sup>5</sup> Barde, Robert, *Marine Corps Competitive Marksmanship*, U.S. Marine Corps, Washington, DC, 1961.

<sup>6</sup> Barde, page 51.

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.thecmp.org>



marksman competing in both the 2000 Olympics and the 2003 Pan American Games. The honor of becoming the first female Distinguished Marksman is still open.<sup>8</sup>

To date one International Distinguished Shooter Badge (USIDSB), 90 service rifle Badges, all earned by men, and 82 service pistol Badges have been issued by the Coast Guard to its active duty and reserve components, with 25 Coast Guardsmen wearing both. The Coast Guard has about one in eight of its Distinguished shooters qualified as Double Distinguished, about 15%, making it one of the highest percentages, if not the highest, of all the military services<sup>9</sup>

The Coast Guard's first appearance at the National Matches in 1928 was at the height of Prohibition when the service was very prominent in battling rum runners. The Coast Guard, then an arm of the Treasury Department, was charged with enforcing Prohibition, the Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution and the accompanying Volstead Act, which outlawed the manufacture, transportation and sale of alcohol and alcoholic beverages.

Therefore, the Coast Guard's appearance at Camp Perry caused some suspicion on the part for it is located on Lake Erie opposite the Canadian border. Furthermore, its proximity to Detroit, where The Purple Gang, a mob of bootleggers and hijackers, operated with impunity across the Detroit River, made many think the Coast Guard might be there for more than just friendly rifle competition. This viewpoint held by numerous competitors, many whom may have been prone to hoisting a few illegal cold beers in some blind pig in Port Clinton after a hot day on the Camp Perry ranges, may well have been heightened by the Coast Guard's rather poor performance.

Even being "outclassed," as Waesche charitably put it; there were sparks that would ignite the competitive program. Individually Lindholm, then an ensign, placed 13<sup>th</sup> out of 1,453 in the National Trophy Individual (NTI) Rifle Match and Chief Gunner's Mate Albert V. Walton was third in competition for the Crowell Trophy, 15 shots at 1,000 yards. The team placed third overall in the Enlisted Men's match and, out of 95 teams, placed 16<sup>th</sup> in the National Trophy Team (NTT) match.

Later that year the service opened the Cape May, New Jersey range. In part it was to support overall Coast Guard training but the fact that the rifle team lost out on sixth place in the NTT because of poor scores at 1,000 yards may have also had something to do with its construction.

Success was not far off as Chief Boatswain's Mate Paul Goulden became the first Coast Guardsman to earn a President's Hundred brassard, followed in the same event by RM2 G.J. Moore and Coxswain R.M. Catron, at the 1929 National Matches.

To inspire their men to do their utmost in National Match competition the Coast Guard donated the Coast Guard Memorial Trophy to the National Rifle Association (NRA) in

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<sup>8</sup> Rocketto, Hap, *A Short History of the Distinguished Program*, <http://www.thecmp.org>, 2013.

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.thecmp.org/Competitions/DistinguishedBadges.htm>

1930. The ornately decorated silver cup was awarded to the top scoring Coast Guardsman in the President's Match from 1930 through 1967, when it was withdrawn from competition.

Ensign Henry F. Garcia was the first to have his name engraved upon the trophy. Garcia, who had been a midshipman at the US Naval Academy, was commissioned into the Coast Guard in 1928, becoming the first recognized minority officer in the Coast Guard. Ten years later he became the first Hispanic-American cutter captain when he assumed command of the *USCGC Morris* (WSC-147).<sup>10</sup>

Over the next few years the competitive program was strengthened with the acquisition of match quality firearms and equipment, and a pistol team was fielded at the National Matches for the first time in 1931.

American success in international marksmanship competition reached a high point in the 1920s and 30s when U.S. shooters dominated the World Championships and Olympic Games, but that would change. As the Cold War heated up in the aftermath of World War II the United States found itself far behind the Soviet Bloc in the competitive shooting arena. The National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice (NBPRP), the predecessor of today's Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), sought to stimulate United States success in international shooting.

To that end the NBPRP created the U. S. Distinguished International Shooter Badge (USIDSB). At the time to be awarded the USIDSB a U. S. shooter had to win an individual gold, silver or bronze medal in the Olympic Games, World Shooting Championship, or Pan American Games.

The first USIDSB was awarded in a White House ceremony to Gary Anderson, a two-time Olympic gold medalist in 300-meter rifle shooting, by President John Kennedy in April of 1963. The NBPRP also retroactively awarded the USIDSB to any US shooter who had met the qualifications prior to 1963.<sup>11</sup>

Ensign Harry Renshaw, a veteran of the 1930 and 1931 teams, is the Coast Guard's only holder of the USIDSB having won six medals in the 1930 World Championships held in Antwerp; three gold, a silver, and two bronzes. After leaving the Coast Guard Renshaw earned Distinguished status with the service rifle and pistol making him a rare triple Distinguished shooter.

Renshaw came to the Coast Guard after being commissioned via the Army Reserve Officer Training Corps at the University of Arizona. He graduated with honors in 1929 as a Rhodes Scholar candidate. After his Coast Guard service Renshaw returned to the Army to attend flight school and it was as an Army officer that he earned his service arm Distinguished badges. After earning his wings, he flew the airmail for the Army, passed the Texas Bar while a flight instructor at Randolph Field, and commanded several

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<sup>10</sup> [www.uscg.mil/history/.../ppt/Hispanic-AmericanExhibitBooklet2013.ppt](http://www.uscg.mil/history/.../ppt/Hispanic-AmericanExhibitBooklet2013.ppt)

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.odcmp.com/competitions/usdisbhistory.pdf>

squadrons. Lieutenant Colonel Renshaw was killed in an aircraft accident in Burma in 1943.<sup>12</sup>

The 1931 team was led by Lieutenant Commander William Kossler, whose efforts to build a competitive team would earn him a letter of commendation from Commandant Billard. Four years after he earned his gold Distinguished Badge in 1931 Kossler pinned another gold badge to the left breast of his uniform, the wings of a Coast Guard aviator. Kossler was Coast Guard Aviator #43, and later Coast Guard helicopter pilot #25. By 1940 he was the Coast Guard's Chief of Aviation Engineering where he urged the development of the helicopter for military use and rescue work. His foresight and pioneering work in rotary wing operations insured that he was one of the first inductees into the Coast Guard Aviation Hall of Honor.<sup>13</sup>

The *Saint Petersburg Times*, of September 9, 1931, reported that Ensign Renshaw had won the DuPont Trophy, emblematic of the Free Rifle Championship at Camp Perry. Renshaw's teammate Chief Machinist's Mate Ervin C. Frye bested the field that year with a 49X50 in the 300-yard rapid fire prone Scott Trophy match. Once he had tasted victory there was no stopping him, and Frye repeated the win in 1932.

The various service and civilian teams, who had years of experience at the National Matches, started to look over their shoulders at the upstart Coasties for, in 1932, they took home the Enlisted Men's Team Trophy which required six enlisted shooters to fire ten shots slow fire, standing at 200 yards followed by ten shots slow fire prone at 600 yards with the Service Rifle. Proving they were no flash in the pan, they repeated in 1938 and 1939.

The momentum increased in 1933 when Chief Boatswain's Mate Goulden won the Lee O. Wright Trophy which might fairly be viewed at the national high-power rifle championship. He was joined in the winner's circle by nine other Coast Guardsmen when the team captured the Rumbold Trophy, an event which required a ten-man team to each fire ten shots at 200 yards rapid fire and ten more slow fire prone at 600 yards.

Under Waesche, now in his second year as Commandant, a state of the art arms maintenance facility was established at Curtis Bay, Maryland in 1938 to support general issue small arms but with an emphasis on match firearms for the competition teams. Waesche also saw that the team was issued distinctive khaki uniforms with a red, white, and blue gold trimmed embroidered Coast Guard shield stitched neatly on the bicep of the left sleeve. Topped by campaign hats they served to improve morale among the shooters and to raise the Coast Guard's profile with the public.

Commandant Waesche and the Assistant Commandant, Captain Benjamin M. Chiswell, were very supportive of the competitive program. But Waesche went one step further

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<sup>12</sup> Lea, Thomas, *The Two Thousand Yard Stare: Tom Lea's World War II*, Texas A&M University Press, 2008, page 216.

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.uscg.mil/history/people/bios/KosslerWilliamJbio.pdf> and [http://www.aoptero.org/htm/hall\\_of\\_honor.php](http://www.aoptero.org/htm/hall_of_honor.php)

and was hands on, going as far as to personally select the types and models of rifle, pistols, and accessories for the team.<sup>14</sup>

Congress did not fund the National Matches during the hardest times of the Great Depression. The competitive slack was taken up in 1932, 1933, and 1934 by regional matches, based on the nine Army Corps Areas. Each Corps Area match was assigned appropriate NRA trophies. Participation was not limited by residence within a Corps Area, so competitors could shoot in whatever events that their interest, vacation time, and pocketbook might allow.<sup>15</sup>

Based at the Curtis Bay Yard CBM Goulden would travel up and down the East coast, from Wakefield, Massachusetts to the Marine Corps Base at Quantico, during the late summer of 1934. He shot in the Presidents Match in Wakefield and the Wright Trophy at Quantico and won both events.

Just before Christmas Goulden opened his mail and found a letter which stated, "I have been informed...that you were the winner of the "President's Match" for 1934...The winning of this Match...is indeed a notable achievement. It is a real pleasure to congratulate you on your victory and commend you for the high degree of skill in marksmanship which you have attained." At the top of the page was printed "The White House" and at the bottom was the signature of Franklin D. Roosevelt.<sup>16</sup>

Goulden's hard holding did not end with the President's win. He also won the coveted Navy Cup, the premier standing match, and picked up his second Wright Trophy.

By 1935 the Coast Guard was heavily involved in rifle and pistol completion on a state, regional, and national level. The Coast Guard encouraged this competition by supplying arms and ammunition for two reasons. Prize money won at matches did much to supplement the meager Depression pay of enlisted men, a recruit made but \$19 a month, helping to keep those who participated on a sound financial standing as USCG headquarters frowned upon indebtedness in the service's ranks.<sup>17</sup> For example, an individual who placed in the top five in an event at the National Matches might earn as much as \$50 for a first-place finish and \$10 for tenth place score. Additionally, Coast Guardsmen who qualified as Expert with the rifle or pistol received an additional \$5 per month and Sharpshooters \$3, when funds were available. These financial inducements were generous when one considers the wages for a recruit, and it wasn't much better for higher ranking enlisted men. Shooting also provided for a recreational activity that had military value.

The Rumbold Trophy would again be placed on the Coast Guard's mantle in 1935 while Gunner's Mate First Class Melvon O. Wilson would win the Navy Cup in 1936. Three

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<sup>14</sup> Wells, page 52

<sup>15</sup> Davey, Karen, *The National Matches 1903-2003*, The National Rifle Association, Washington, DC, 2010, pages 152-163

<sup>16</sup> Davey, page 160.

<sup>17</sup> Wells, Page 62.

major trophies would fall to a trio of Coast Guard Boatswain's Mates in 1937. Boatswain's Mate Second Class Virgil W.B. Jansen shot a perfect 50X50 with eight Vs to win the Member's Trophy; Boatswain's Mate First Class Arthur P. Minor shot the best score in the Marine Corps Cup match, and Coxswain Marcus N. Cobb became the second Coast Guardsman to win the rapid-fire Scott Trophy.

A year after he earned the Distinguished Marksman Badge Seaman First Class Rudolph Jones was the top scoring rifleman in the 1938 National Trophy Team (NTT) Match with a score of 287X300. In doing so he shot perfect scores of 50X50 in both rapid fire sitting at 200 yards and rapid fire prone at 300 yards. His score not only gave him bragging rights on the Coast Guard team but also saw him awarded the Pershing Trophy and a gold medal indicating that he had the best score of the 1,250 men representing 125 teams in the event.<sup>18</sup>

Coast Guard excellence continued to shine as GMC Wilson took home the 1938 DuPont Trophy. It had been reassigned after Renshaw's 1931 win and was now awarded to the All Around National Championship. The DuPont was an aggregate of scores fired in high power's Coast Guard Trophy, Navy Cup, Wimbledon Cup, Marine Corps Cup, and Crowell Trophy, the smallbore championship's U.S. Trophy Smallbore match, the Winchester Trophy Smallbore Match, and a Service Pistol National Match Course (NMC).<sup>19</sup> Success in this shooting *tour de force* required the stamina, skill, and mental flexibility to deal with three disciplines in multiple locations over several days.<sup>20</sup>

As the Curtis Bay facility was opening Coast Guard Academy Cadet Cornelius G. Houtsma was making his mark in intercollegiate shooting. Just two years after the NRA created an All-American program for collegiate rifleman Houtsma was named to the 1938 team, the first cadet to be so honored with a "Golden Bullet." Houtsma retired as a captain after a 30-year career. During World War II he served in the Pacific and was chosen to be an observer at the Bikini Atoll atomic bomb testing. He also designed, and received two U.S. patents for navigational buoys.

Admiral James Steele Gracey, 17<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the Coast Guard, graduated from the Academy in 1949 after following in Houtsma's footsteps, although to a lesser degree. During his four years as a cadet he was a member of the rifle team and shot alongside All Americans Arne J. Soreng and Robert C. Taylor. He remembers his membership on the rifle team fondly saying that, "The rifle team was an interesting experience. It was fiercely competitive intercollegiately, and we had a good team. We were nationally ranked. We were tops in New England. Our big teams to beat were Army and Navy, of course, which we did on occasion. We also shot in an industrial

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<sup>18</sup> See Appendix J for the saga of Jones' Pershing Trophy.

<sup>19</sup> With the .30 Rifle: 20 shots standing and ten shots rapid fire at 200 yards, ten shots rapid fire prone at 300 yards, ten shots slow fire at 600 yards, 30 shots slow fire at 1,000 yards; with the Service Pistol: ten shots each slow, timed, and rapid fire; with the smallbore rifle 20 shots slow fire prone at 50 and 100 yards.

<sup>20</sup> Davey, page 164

league in town.<sup>21</sup> We'd go out at night and go out to someplace and shoot against a bunch of guys who were using scopes and straps, and we were doing the NRA rules of no scopes. Nothing, just iron sights and shoot. And we did well. We won."<sup>22</sup>

All American honors in pistol shooting would be added in 1960. The Academy made its mark in that discipline when five cadets received the honor in the inaugural year, Academy shooters named to first and second team honors were Cadets Kenneth D. Bell, Thomas F. Frischmann, Thomas Y. Lawrence, Karl W. Mirmak, and Richard B. O'Keefe. Pistol shooter Maxime M.V. James, a cadet from Antigua, was the first woman to earn All American honors in 1994. Pistol Shooter Stanley T. Fuger, Jr. was named an All American for three consecutive years while Chad R. Thompson earned a total of seven All American honors. Since Houtsma's appearance, 48 cadets have been awarded 93 All American certificates in the various shooting disciplines.

The hard work on the part of Headquarters to wring out funds and men during the hard times of the Depression paid off in 1940. In what many consider the classic National Match, the last with the venerable, highly accurate, and comely bolt action Springfield '03 as the service rifle, the Coast Guard reached its high-water mark in National Match competition. They won the National Trophy Infantry Team (NTIT) Match, beating back the best the Army and the Marine Corps had to offer.<sup>23</sup>

The NTIT, a "Musketry Problem," demands that a fire team of six rifleman and two team leaders engage eight targets at distances starting at 600 yards. Issued 384 rounds of ammunition and armed with five M1903 30 caliber Springfield rifles and one Browning Automatic Rifle the teams attempt to maximize hits at the longest ranges on silhouette targets which are exposed for 50 seconds. The sound and fury of the rapid fire have given the match the more common appellation of "Rattle Battle."<sup>24</sup>

Lieutenant Junior Grade Ernest A. Casini recorded the best finish by a Coast Guardsman in the Presidents Hundred at the 1940 National Matches. Posting a score of 146-10Vs Casini placed second behind Infantry Corporal Thaddeus Ferenc who shot a 146-11Vs. Shooting is a game of fractions of an inch and Casini took second on a tie breaker with another Infantry corporal, Charles Gordon, who shot the exact same score. Perhaps a quarter of an inch more left or right might have garnered Casini the top prize.<sup>25</sup>

To date, Goulden and fellow teammate and Chief Boatswain's Mate James Q. Alligood, at eight, have earned more Presidents Hundred brassards with the rifle than any other Coast Guardsmen. Chief Aviation Maintenance Technician Wesley Fleming has placed in six pistol Presidents Matches and holds the record for that discipline.

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<sup>21</sup> This is the Mohegan Rifle League which is still active and in which the author participates.

<sup>22</sup> [http://www.uscg.mil/history/weboralhistory/gracey\\_interview\\_1\\_12.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/history/weboralhistory/gracey_interview_1_12.pdf) page 48-49

<sup>23</sup> [http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/IT\\_Infantry.htm](http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/IT_Infantry.htm)

<sup>24</sup> National Rifle Association, *1940 National Match Program*, Washington, DC, 1940

<sup>25</sup> *The American Rifleman*, November 1940 page 45

An interesting bit of trivia surrounding the 1940 National Matches was that not one trophy was won by a member of the service that presented it. The Navy and Coast Guard Cups went to Marines, A civilian won the Marine Corps Cup and the Infantry Trophy was won by the Coast Guard.<sup>26</sup>

The 1940 National Matches were the last with the rifle to be held until 1951, World War II and the Korean Police Action causing the cancellation. The Coast Guard's first entry back into national competition after World War II was in 1947 when Distinguished Pistol Shot Commander Walter Bakutis, a veteran of the 1935 to 1939 Coast Guard teams, shot in the pistol matches held at Camp Perry in August. He placed 12<sup>th</sup> in the National Trophy Individual (NTI) Pistol Match garnering a silver medal for being in the top three percent of competitors.<sup>27</sup>

When the Coast Guard returned to national rifle competition after Korea it had lost much of its competitive momentum. While the Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force had permanent cadres to serve as a foundation for expanded summer teams heading to Camp Perry the Coast Guard was only able to assemble a team on a temporary duty basis. From the early 1950s through 1966 the Coast Guard fielded teams, but the glory of the prewar days was but a bright memory. Only an occasional spark reminded all of what had been, such as when Gunner's Mate Second Class Karl E. Berggren followed in the footsteps of BM2 Jansen and won the 1956 Members Trophy Match.

"The Coast Guard presented the U. S. Coast Guard Memorial Trophy to the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice (NBPRP) in 1957. This trophy commemorates Coast Guard personnel who lost their lives while in the Service. It is a replica of the Coast Guard Memorial located in Arlington Cemetery, with statuettes of Coast Guard personnel holding service pistols on either side of a central pyramid. The pyramid is cast in bronze and heavily plated in silver with an oxidized finish. It is presented to the high scoring reserve component team in the National Trophy Pistol Team Match."<sup>28</sup>

In another fleeting moment of fame Gunner's Mate Second Class Stanford H. Hullstrom was top gun in the 1961 National Trophy Individual Pistol Match and was presented the General Custer Trophy for his efforts by the NBPRP. The next time the Coast Guard would win a match at the National Trophy Matches Hullstrom would be long retired.

Ensign Willard J. Smith had won a bronze medal toward the Distinguished Pistol Shot badge in 1935, the year he captained the Coast Guard Pistol Team. Three decades later, Smith, now an admiral and the Commandant, sponsored the first All Coast Guard Rifle and Pistol Matches in 1966 to stimulate marksmanship training throughout the service. Several more matches would follow the initial match, but it was too little too late. A decade of confusion in weapons training, the lack of institutional history among those who oversaw training and competition, and indifference spelled the end of the

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<sup>26</sup> National Rifle Association, page 18.

<sup>27</sup> US Coast Guard, *Coast Guard Bulletin*, Volume Three, Number 28, Washington, DC, October 1947

<sup>28</sup> [http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/PT\\_USCG\\_Memorial.htm](http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/PT_USCG_Memorial.htm)

organized competitive marksmanship program.<sup>29</sup> The forty-year-old program which had enjoyed huge success in the late 1930s ended ironically, as T.S. Eliot wrote in *The Hollow Men*, “Not with a bang but a whimper.”

A group of young pistol shooters, not yet born when Hullstrom won the Custer Trophy, would begin to reclaim some of the service’s lost glory. Wielding 45 caliber Colt 1911A1 service pistols the Coast Guard Academy Bears would win the Alden Partridge Trophy four times in five years, 1992, 1994, 1995, and 1996, beating all other service academy and ROTC pistol teams in the National Trophy Team Pistol Match. Cadet Janine Lavalle would win the Intercollegiate Trophy, awarded to the high scoring service or ROTC competitor in the NTI Pistol Match, in 1994 and 1995 while Cadet Joseph Brown would win in 1996.

Lavalle would raise the prominence of the Coast Guard competitive when she became the first to represent the service in major international competition since Harry Renshaw some 70 years earlier. Lavalle, who excelled at pistol marksmanship, while a cadet and as a junior officer at the National Matches, was selected to be a member of the United States shooting team at the 2000 Olympic Sydney Games where she competed in women’s sport pistol.

While an occasional Coast Guardsman would participate in local, regional and National Match competition a service wide competitive program was all but a memory. It wasn’t until the mid-1980s that the Coast Guard would again provide limited support for competitive shooting for its members. During the Coast Guard shooting hiatus, about 20 years, only six Distinguished Badges were earned by Coast Guardsmen. In the 37 years prior to the cessation of a service wide shooting program 105 Badges were issued while in the 35 years after the program was somewhat revived 57 Badges were pinned on Coast Guard blues, highlighting a renewed enthusiasm in competitive marksmanship.

Distinguished Pistol Shot Chief Port Securityman Frank E. Papuga came by his Badge via a circuitous route. Papuga, a reservist, had earned his points at four different Excellence In Competition (EIC) Matches from 1957 through 1968. Lieutenant Colonel Joseph S. Smith USAR (Ret), the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, awarded him a civilian Badge. Had Papuga been on active duty at the time he completed qualifications for the award at the 1968 Quantico Regional Championship, the Commandant would have authorized the presentation of a Coast Guard Badge. The civilian and Coast Guard awards look remarkably similar and it would take a sharp eye to notice the difference.<sup>30</sup>

The Coast Guard boasts a pair of Double Distinguished siblings. Distinguished Pistol Shot Chief Aviation Maintenance Technician Wesley Fleming, a member of the prestigious NRA 2600 Pistol Club and the pistol Presidents Hundred, went out with the rifle in 2007 making him the Coast Guard’s 25<sup>th</sup> Double Distinguished. The following

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<sup>29</sup> Wells, page 62, 104, and 105-7.

<sup>30</sup> Coast Guard Reservist, Vol XVI, No.90 August 1989, Washington, DC, page 1.



year his brother, Lieutenant Lee Fleming, added a rifle Badge to his pistol Badge when he picked up his last points for the Distinguished Marksman Badge, in the process of becoming the 27<sup>st</sup> Coast Guard Double Distinguished. The Fleming brothers teamed up for a first-place finish in the Two Member Team National Championship event at the 2009 National Pistol Championships; the first time a Coast Guard active duty team had won a team event at Camp Perry since 1940.<sup>31</sup>

Several Coast Guard flag officers have earned Distinguished. Rear Admiral Dwight Hodge Dexter was appointed to the Coast Guard Academy in 1922 but returned to civilian life in 1924 re-entering the Service as an Ensign during the service's Prohibition build-up. He was a member of the Coast Guard Rifle and Pistol Team during its most successful five seasons, 1936-40, captaining the team for three of them while earning his Distinguished Marksman Badge in 1940. In addition to his shooting duties he served in the cutter *Saranac* and at the Curtis Bay Yard. At Curtis Bay he supervised armorers Gunner's Mates First Class Einer K.A. Talen and Paul F. Johnson who, as team members, took especial care building competition rifle and pistols.<sup>32</sup>

During World War II Dexter served with distinction in the Pacific, commanding Naval Operation Base Cactus, the small boat pool, during the invasion of Guadalcanal for which he was awarded the Silver Star. Dexter was Coxswain Douglas Munro's commanding officer when Munro performed the heroic action for which he became the only Coast Guardsman to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

Dexter is also, perhaps, the only Coast Guard officer to ever command a vessel with the same name as his. He served as skipper of *USCGC Dexter* (WAGC-18), from May 1947 to April 1948. He was no relation as the ship-the former the US Navy *Barneget*-class seaplane tender USS *Biscayne* (AVP-11)-was named for an early Secretary of the Treasury Samuel Dexter.<sup>33</sup> He continued shooting and became Double Distinguished in 1959, earning the Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge the same year he retired as a captain. Having received a combat decoration, he was promoted to Rear Admiral on the retired list, a so called "tombstone" promotion, because one receives all the rewards and prestige of the higher rank, including having it chiseled into his tombstone, just not the pay.

Another Distinguished flag officer is Rear Admiral Joel D. Sipes<sup>34</sup> who, as a freshly minted Ensign, completed his requirements for the Distinguished Marksman Badge in 1960. The 1959 Academy graduate, was a bit of a Renaissance man as demonstrated by his skill with the rifle and voice for he was one of the earliest members of *The Idlers*, the Academy's all-male a cappella ensemble. He had a distinguished career afloat and ashore as he represented the United States in the international arena in major conferences, served as National Director of the Coast Guard's Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection programs and capped his service as Commander of the

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<sup>31</sup> <http://coastguard.dodlive.mil/2009/10/guardians-of-the-week-lcdr-and-amtc-fleming/>

<sup>32</sup> Wells page 65.

<sup>33</sup> <http://www.uscg.mil/history/people/DexterDwightIndex.asp>

<sup>34</sup> <http://www.uscg.mil/history/people/Flags/SipesJBio.pdf>

First Coast Guard District, Boston. According to Sipes' son Jeff, "Earning the Distinguished Badge was an accomplishment that my father sincerely valued. Of all his many achievements, it was always one he talked about most."<sup>35</sup>

A decade after graduating from the Academy, as a member of the Class of 1978 with a Bachelor of Science in Management, then Lieutenant Joseph "Pepe" Castillo earned his last points and was designated a Distinguished Pistol Shot. Rear Admiral Castillo had a varied career involving a myriad of operational assignments ashore. A high point was as the Eighth Coast Guard District Chief of Operations in New Orleans where he was instrumental in leading the Coast Guard's efforts to rescue and evacuate over 33,500 people from New Orleans and the Mississippi and Alabama coasts following Hurricane Katrina. Followed in the pioneering footsteps of fellow Distinguished shooter and Hispanic, ENS Henry Garcia, Castillo, as the Commander of Eleventh Coast Guard District he became the first Hispanic to command a Coast Guard District. Castillo capped his 35-year career serving as the Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area. On his retirement from active duty on April 5, 2013 Castillo was honored at his *alma mater* by the Corps of Cadets at the first parade of 2013.<sup>36</sup>

Ironically one of the earliest graduates of what would become the US Coast Guard Academy, the U. S. Revenue Cutter School of Instruction at Fort Trumbull in New London, Connecticut, was William H. Rupertus. He stood second in the class of 1913 but failed the active duty physical examination and so resigned. As he was an outstanding marksman the Marine Corps recruited him four months later. He graduated first in the class of 1915 from the Marine Corps Officers' School, and passed his Marine Corps physical. As a company grade officer, he earned the Distinguished Marksman Badge in 1915, later wrote *My Rifle: The Creed of a US Marine*, and rose to the rank of Major General.<sup>37</sup>

The positive effect that involvement in the Coast Guard shooting program had upon those who participated is probably best summed up by Captain John Wallace, USCGA Class of 1961. Since his Swab Summer in 1957 Wallace had dreamed of Coast Guard Aviation. After graduating he was a junior officer on the rifle team and recalled that, "Unfortunately I had a rifle blow back into my eyes while shooting on the All Coast Guard Rifle Team and could not then pass the physical for flight school."

What was a heartbreaking accident, certainly disappointing to the young officer, did not embitter him at all. After three decades of successful and rewarding work as a Coast Guard Civil Engineer he was asked, "Of the medals, awards, and qualification badges or devices you received, what is the most meaningful to you and why?" The captain, who received 49 military awards of all sorts apparently thought much like Admiral Sipes, "Of these the ones that stand out as being significant were the award of the US Coast Guard Distinguished Marksman Badge..." Distinguished was the first award mentioned,

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<sup>35</sup> <http://pronematch.com/distinguished-knows-no-rank/comment-page-1/#comment-6189>

<sup>36</sup> <http://www.uscg.mil/flag/biography/JosephCastillo.pdf>

<sup>37</sup> Rocketto, Hap, *Major General William Rupertus, USMC*, Precision Shooting Magazine, Manchester, CT 2000.

the one that caused the loss of a cadet dream but seemed worth the trade off to Wallace in the long run.<sup>38</sup>

Presently, except for cadets at the Academy, “the Coast Guard does not formally participate in Competitive Marksmanship Matches sponsored by the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), the National Rifle Association (NRA), or the Department of Defense (DOD). Coast Guard personnel however, are encouraged to represent the service in Excellence in Competition point events to enhance marksmanship and overall weapons proficiency. The Coast Guard provides limited support to service members interested in competing in such events.”<sup>39</sup>

In nearly nine decades of existence the Coast Guard competitive shooting program has come full circle. Just as it was in 1928 the service supports competitors with match firearms but does not authorize funding. Permissive orders are authorized but Coast Guard shooters must fund match fees, lodging, travel costs, and ammunition personally. A Coast Guard shooter is a dedicated athlete.<sup>40</sup>

The Coast Guard is a very small service, with severe budget and manning constraints, stretched thin to successfully accomplish its mission. The exigencies of the service do not allow for a fully supported competitive shooting program, as it was in its pre-war heyday, but it none the less enthusiastically approves of, and encourages, participation in all levels and disciplines of competitive marksmanship. Unlike Rupertus, a century ago, today’s Coast Guard marksman do not need to switch branches to participate at the highest levels of shooting competition.

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<sup>38</sup><http://coastguard.togetherweserved.com/uscg/servlet/tws.webapp.WebApps?cmd=ShadowBoxProfile&type=Person&ID=1278>

<sup>39</sup> COMMANDANT INSTRUCTION 3590.1A, dated April 23, 2013, Washington, DC. Page One, Paragraph 5,

<sup>40</sup> Ibid, Page 2.

## Appendix A-US Coast Guard Marksmanship Awards<sup>41</sup>



The Presidents Hundred Tab is worn on the left shoulder of the enlisted service dress blue uniform only. It is awarded when a competitor places in the top 100 in the Presidents match at the National Trophy matches. The blue brassard is 4 ½ inches long and 5/8<sup>th</sup> inch tall with ¼ inch white lettering. It is not available through the supply system but, rather through the efforts of AMTC Wesley Fleming, USCG who has had them manufactured, it can be obtained.

### US Coast Guard Distinguished Marksman Badge and silver and bronze Excellence In Competition Badge and associated ribbons



### US Coast Guard Distinguished Pistol Shot Badge and silver and bronze Excellence In Competition Badge and associated ribbons



<sup>41</sup> [http://www.uscg.mil/uniform/docs/CIM\\_M1020\\_6G.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/uniform/docs/CIM_M1020_6G.pdf)

A bronze Excellence In Competition (EIC) badge is awarded when the first 'leg' is earned. A Silver EIC badge is awarded when 20 points are earned. The Distinguished Badge is awarded when 30 points are earned in EIC matches. The Distinguished and EIC Badges are not worn when the equivalent ribbon is present in the ribbon display.

The Coast Guard is the only service that currently has a ribbon, as well as a badge, representing Distinguished and EIC awards. The ribbon and the Badge may not be worn simultaneously. Between 1942 and 1960, the Navy also issued ribbons known as the Distinguished Marksmanship Ribbons, but they were discontinued by 1965.

The target devices on the Distinguished ribbons are gold colored representations of the appropriate rifle and pistol target

Note that the firearm device on the EIC rifle ribbon is the United States Rifle, 7.62 mm, M14 and the EIC pistol ribbon device is a representation of the Automatic Pistol, Caliber .45, M1911A1, neither of which is the current service rifle or pistol. The devices are bronze and silver to indicate which EIC badge the ribbon represents.

#### Coast Guard Marksmanship Qualification awards

##### Coast Guard Expert Rifle and Pistol Medals



##### Coast Guard Expert, Sharpshooter, and Marksman Rifle and Pistol Ribbons



## Appendix B-US Coast Guard Distinguished Marksman and Pistol Shots

Data extracted from Civilian Marksmanship Program and USCG documents.  
Ranks/Rates may reflect grade at retirement rather than that at time of award.

### United States International Distinguished Shooters Badge

1929

Ensign Harry Noon Renshaw

### Distinguished Marksman

1929

LT Harvey Evans Grogan  
LT Walter Morrison

1930

CWO2 Raymond G. Fair  
MMC Ervin Frye  
CBM Paul Goulden  
GM1 Arthur J. Treaster

1931

CBM James Q. Alligood  
CAPT Montague F. Garfield  
LCDR William Kossler  
CDR Richard B. McMahonill

1935

CBM Earl C. Jones  
CWO2 Melvon O. Wilson

1936

COX Marcus N. Cobb  
GM1 Peter Marcoux  
CWO Lawrence W. Parish

1937

RM1 Russell A. Banker  
GM(a) Rudolph Jones  
LT Leon H. Morine  
CCN Ashby C. Starke  
CWO1 Harold J. Williams

1938

QM1 Donald A. Brown  
RMC Virgil W.B. Jansen

1939

LT Christian R. Couser  
BMC Berry W. Hawthorne  
SURF Manson E. Meekins  
CDR Arthur P. Minor  
CWO Wilfred Mitchell

1940

LT Dwight H. Dexter  
LT George R. Taylor  
BMC Irwin H. Wass  
EM1(Tel) Raymond Whittaker

1955

CDR James I. Doughty  
CWO4 George R. Pearce

1956

GMC John A. Hansbury  
CDR Lambert J. Larson  
GM1 John H. McCormick  
HMC Clarence H. Rhodes

1957

RD3 Robert C. Dodson  
CWO Edmond E. Hainstock  
AD2 Kenneth R. Pople

1958

LTJG Patrick D. Mooney  
BM3 Paul P. Patterson  
LCDR Forrest W. Peil

1959

BMC William E. Allbritton  
BM2 Russell F. Brown  
----- Boyd Davidson  
CWO4 Boyd J. Davis  
YN1 William B. Ennett  
CDR Clinton S. Ferris  
BMC Merrill R. Menlove  
CAPT Glenn F. Young

1960

LT Fredrick G. Bruner  
ENS Peter J. Cronk  
LT Donald L. Millroy  
EN2 Jesse T. Rainwater  
ENS Joel D. Sipes

1960 (continued)  
 LCDR Lloyd R. Lomer  
 CWO Stephen Sperlak

1961  
 GMC Billy D. Evans

1962  
 LCDR John R. Wallace

1963  
 BMCS Walters J. Annas  
 CDR Charles S. Minks

1966  
 CWO3 James E. Shafer

1968  
 GM1 Rodney L. Lough  
 GM1 Samuel J. Peters

1971  
 YNC V.R. Anderson

1986  
 GMC Fred W. Tierney

1990  
 CWO4 Charles W. Bozeman

1991  
 GM2 Karl E. Berggen  
 EM1 James C. Kirby

1992  
 LTJG James M. Duckworth  
 GMC R.M. Oakley

1993  
 EM3 Thomas Allen  
 GM3 Kevin T. Shaughnessy  
 GM3 Thaddeus Zepnikowski

1995  
 LTJG Robert M. Hollaway  
 MK2 Greg McCandless  
 GMCS William M. Runkle  
 LTJG Robert S. Keister

1996  
 MK1 Charles M. Franz

1997  
 GM1 R.B. Trinkle

1999  
 ATM3 Michael S. Langrall

2001  
 AVT2 David B. Ostlund

2007  
 AMTC Wesley Robin Fleming

2008  
 LT Lee Allen Fleming  
 LT Vincent James Jansen

2011  
 LCDR (RET) David Ressel<sup>42</sup>

2013  
 CWO3 Chad Anthony Barber  
 LT Jonathan I. Welch  
 RTC Brian M. Turlington  
 LT Charles A. Lumpkin

2017  
 C/2 Reid Wiegles<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>42</sup> Earned first EIC Points on active duty and completed after retirement.

<sup>43</sup> Cadet Second Class Wiegles earned points as a civilian before entering the Academy and is the first to earn the Badge as a cadet.

## Distinguished Pistol Shots

1931

LT Stanley C. Linholm

1932

CBM Paul Goulden

1935

CDR Richard B. McMahon

1936

CBM James Q. Alligood

CWO3 Earl C. Jones

LCDR Wilfred Mitchell

1937

COX Marcus N. Cobb

LT Leon H. Morine

CWO1 Harold J. Williams

1938

LT Walter S. Bakutis

1939

GM1 Peter Marcoux

1940

GMC Sterling H. Stricklett

1947

CDR Christian R. Couser

1953

CDR Manson E. Meekins

1955

CDR Leon D. Santman

1956

CWO Arnold A. Adams

HMC Clarence H. Rhodes

1958

LT Edwin Chase

BM1 Erwin Chase

CWO Lawrence R. Fillinger

CWO Clark W. Straus

CAPT Glenn F. Young

1959

CAPT Dwight H. Dexter

CWO Stephen Sperlak

1960

CDR ®Wallace G. Angel

LT Herbert M. Collins

GM2 Stanford H. Hullstrom

LCDR Charles W. Mason

BM3 Robert Parrillo

LT William G. Wohlfarth

1961

ASMCM Charles J. Dugan

DCC William Edison, Jr.

CAPT Richard D. Hodges

1962

EN1 James H. Holiday

CWO Thomas J. Mulcahy

1964

LT Richard B. O'Keefe

1968

PSC Frank E. Papuga<sup>44</sup>

1969

GM1 Rodney L. Lough

LCDR John H. Patterson

1973

YNCS Edgar A. Parker

1987

CDR Walter A. Schmidlin, Jr.

GMC Fred W. Tierney

1988

LT Joseph R. Castillio

QM2 James J. Rao, Jr.

1990

---- Robert Arnett

CWO4 Charles W. Bozeman

EM1 James C. Kirby

GMC Robert C. Porter

1991

ET2 J.L. Freeborn

MK2 Greg McCandless

LCDR Kenneth D. McKinna

MK1 L.A. Perry

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<sup>44</sup> See page 7 final Paragraph



1992  
GM2 Karl E. Berggren  
BM1 C.H. Howard  
BM1 W.R. Weir

1993  
MK2 S.R. Blackall  
LCDR Wayne N. Collins  
ENS Timothy E. Darley

1994  
GM3 Michael S. Connelly  
LTJG James M. Duckworth

1995  
CWO4 Gary M. Hollaway

1996  
LCDR James L. McCauley

1997  
EMCS Lee Allen Fleming

1998  
CWO Lewis P. Darley

1999  
ATM1 Phillip B. Baker  
LTJG Janine Lavalley Bowman

2000  
LT Gregory Czerwonka

2001  
LT Edward J. Gaynor  
EM1 James Knapp

2003  
CDR® James Ullian

2004  
GM2® Michael D. Gordon  
LTJG Vincent James Jansen  
MKCS Brad K. Wise

2005  
AMTC Wesley Robin Fleming

2008  
LT Jennifer Elizabeth Leong

2009  
BM1 James Warren Ellyson

2010  
ET1 Mathias Dean Whaley

2011  
ENS Michael Wightman  
GM1 Thomas Schafausen

2012  
LT Charles A. Lumpkin

2013  
CWO3 Chad Anthony Barber

2014  
GM1 Charlie Petrotto

### Double Distinguished

Year and rank/rate are when the of award of second Distinguished Badge was made

1932  
CBM Paul Goulden  
*First USCG Double Distinguished*

1935  
CDR Richard B. McMahonill

1936  
CBM James Q. Alligood  
CBM Earl C. Jones

1937  
COX Marcus N. Cobb

LT Leon H. Morine  
Completed both Badges in the same year  
CWO1 Harold J. Williams  
Completed both Badges in the same year

1939  
CWO Wilfred Mitchell  
GM1 Peter Marcoux  
Rose from seaman to LCDR

1947  
CDR Christian R. Couser

1953  
CDR Manson E. Meekins  
Rose from Surfman to Commander

1956  
HMC Clarence H. Rhodes

1959  
CAPT Glen F. Young  
CAPT Dwight H. Dexter  
Highest ranking individual to go out  
Longest time-19 years between Badges

1961  
CWO Stephen Sperlak

1969  
GM1 Rodney L. Lough

1987  
GMC Fred W. Tierney

1990  
EM1 James C. Kirby  
CWO4 Charles W. Bozeman-  
Completed both Badges in the same year

1992  
GM2 Karl E. Berggren

1994  
LTJG James M. Duckworth

1995  
MK2 Greg McCandless

2007  
AMTC Wesley Robin Fleming  
Brother of LT Lee Allen Fleming

2008  
LT Vincent James Jansen  
LT Lee Allen Fleming  
Brother of AMTC Wesley Robin Fleming

2013  
CWO3 Chad Anthony Barber  
Completed both Badges in the same year

2017  
GM1 Charlie Petrotto

.22 Rimfire Pistol Distinguished

2015  
GM1 Charlie Petrotto Badge #12

## Appendix C-US Coast Guard Members of the Presidents Hundred

Date extracted from appropriate match bulletins and *The American Rifleman*. For various reasons, financial, political or war, there was no Presidents Hundred competition from 1941 through 1950, 1966, and 1968 through 1976. This data is correct as of the draft date located on the front cover. Compilation of names is not yet complete and is being up dated as quickly as past match bulletins become available.

Pistol honorees are noted by a (P)      \*=Winner of Coast Guard Trophy

CBM James Q. Alligood 30 33 34 35* 36 37 38 39	LT Robert S. Keister 01
ENS Walter S. Bakustis 36 38	CGM William H. Kopp 35
RM1 Russell A. Banker 37 38*39	LCDR William J. Kossler 31
CWO3 Chad A. Barber 12	BM2 Charles B. Lockett 39*
QM1 Donald A. Brown 33 35	LT Jennifer Leong (P) 08
---D. C. Branchfield 33	---C.A. Long 54*
PO2 Russell F. Brown 64*	LCDR James L. McCauley (P) 96
QM1 Walter O. Bryan 35	GM1 Peter Marcoux 39
LTJG Ernest A. Casini 40*	CMM Berdette E. Mathews 36
COX R.M. Catron 29	CDR Manson E. Meekins 40 55* 59*
COX Marcus N. Cobb 31* 33 34 35 36	LT Merrill R. Menlove 67*
---M.W. Davidson 34	CWO Wilifred Mitchell 33 35 36 40
LT James I Doughty 60*	PO2 Gary R. Moore 63*
GM1 Daniel B. Durant 36	---W. Morrison 34
---J.G. Edwards 33 34	BM1 Lawrence W. Parish 36 39
BM1 James Ellyson (P) 08	CWO George R. Pearce 61*
YN1 William B. Ennett 59	GM1 Charlie Petrotto, (P)15 16 17
AMTC Wesley Fleming (P)03 05 08 10 11 13	ENS J.T. Rainwater 58*
GM1 Harold Friis 37	RM2 G.J. Moore 29
CMM Ervin M. Frye 33*	ENS Harry N. Renshaw 31
ENS Henry F. Garcia 30* 31	GM1 Charles E. Roell 31
SURF Kenneth R. Goodwin 40	RM1 Rex A. Simonson 31 35
CBM Paul L. Goulden 29 30 11 32* 33 34*37 39	S1C Clarence V. Skogman 37 40
QM2 Frank A. Grantham 36	MOMM2 Tolly W. Spence 35
CM3 Forrest L. Gross 30	CWO Stephen Sperlak 62* 65*
F1C James D. Guy 37*	---Ernest R. Staley 35
MMC Edmond E. Hainstock 56	LT Robert C. Taylor 53*
F2C Miles E. Harrington 37 39	QM3 Carl O. Thomas 40
BM2 Berry W. Hawthorne 39	LTJG Jonathan Welch 04
LT John R. Henthorn 34 39	ET1 Mathias Whaley (P)11
S1C Patrick D. Herbert 39	SURF Raymond H. Whittaker 39 40
RM2 Virgil W. B. Jansen 37 38	---J. H. Wilkinson 34
LT Vincent Jansen (P) 04 06 07	RM2C Harold J. Williams 37
MM1 Charles Jenkins 40	BM1 Melvon O. Wilson 33 34 35 36*37
BM1 Earl C. Jones 31 34 36 39	ENS Michael Wightman (P) 09
S1C Rudolph S. Jones 35 37 39	CWO Brad Wise (P) 03

## Appendix D-US Coast Guard Academy Rifle and Pistol All Americans<sup>45</sup>

Cornelius G. Houtsma	1937R
John D. McCubbin	1939R
Arne J. Soreng	1947R 1948R
Robert C. Taylor	1948R
Frederick C. Bruner	1957R
Kenneth D. Bell	1960P
Thomas F. Frischmann	1960P
Thomas Y. Lawrence	1960P
Karl W. Mirmal	1960P
Richard B. O'Keefe	1960P
Stephen J. Ratey	1962P
David A. Young	1962P
Walter M. Coburn	1962P
Karl Riechelt	1963P
William J. Theroux	1967P 1968P
Frank J. Scaraglino	1968P
Stanley T. Fuger, Jr.	1971P 1972P 1973P
Gary R. Westling	1972P
John J. Anthony	1972P
Daniel J. Farrell	1973P
William M. Gaynor III	1973P
Colin E. Campbell	1996FP&AP
Maxime M.V. James	1997SPAS 1998SP
Robert S. Keister	1994R
Shawn S. Koch	1995FP
Janine A. Levalle	1995SP,SPAS,APAS
Camilla B. Messing	1995 1996 1997 SPAS 1997APAS
Lance Stoddart	1987SP
Steven Steschendorf	1990FP 199FP
Conrad R. Theroux	1993FP 1994FP,SP
Nicholas E. Neely	1999FP,SP 2000AP
Katina M. Rogers	1999AP,SP 2000 2001AP,SP
Melissa M. Depweg	1999SP 2000SP,AP
Velma C. Vining	1999 2000SP
Tobias C. Reid	2000FP,SP
Jeffrey P. Owens	2000 2001SP 2002SP,FP
Tiffany L. Thompson	2001 2002SP
Chad R. Thompson	2001SP 2002SP,AP,&FP
Scott L. McCann	2002 2003 AP,SP 2003FP
Ryan B. Popiel	2004 2005SP
Jennifer E. Leong	2004 SP,AP
Jennifer M. Jojola	2004SP
Nicole M. Murtaugh	2005 2006 STP,SP
Francesca Smith	2006SP
Alyssa McDonald	2009SP
William Brubaker	2009 NRA Distinguished College Coach
Adam Peterson	2011FP 2012AP
Kent Hunt	2011FP 2012AP
Brian Hills	2014 FP
Brian Kim	2016 STP, FP 2017
Helen Oh	2016 AP, FP, SP 2017

R=rifle P=pistol FP=free pistol AP=air pistol SP=sport pistol STP=standard pistol  
SPAS=sport pistol all star APAS=air pistol all star

<sup>45</sup> These data were extracted from National Rifle Association, *NRA All-Americans A Commemorative 1936-1998*, Washington, DC 1998, and website at <http://compete.nra.org/news-and-events/collegiate-all-american-teams.aspx>

## Appendix E- The US Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame<sup>46</sup>

The US Coast Guard Academy Athletic Hall of Fame recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves athletically in the Academy's intercollegiate athletic program, after graduation with achievements in both civilian and/or military life, and served as outstanding examples of character, courage, and leadership which the Academy seeks to instill through its athletic programs.

Individuals who have been associated with the Coast Guard competitive shooting program who have been recognized by the USCGA Athletic Hall of Fame are:

Captain Stanley C. Linholm '27, inducted in 1981, for Basketball, Rifle, and Pistol

Captain Lawrence A. White '51, inducted in 1983, for Sailing, Rifle, Wrestling, and Boxing

Captain Walter R. Richards '25, inducted in 1985, served as an Academy football coach and was the Officer in Charge of the Coast Guard Rifle and Pistol Team

Captain James I. Doughty '54, inducted 2007, for Rifle

Janine Lavallee Bowman '95, inducted 2016, for Pistol

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<sup>46</sup> <http://www.cgaalumni.org/s/1043/index.aspx?pgid=306&gid=1>

## COAST GUARD MEMORIAL TROPHY



The Coast Guard Memorial Trophy is a tall silver cup, without handles, affixed to a turned ebony base. An eagle with extended wings surmounts the peak of the cup's lid. Descriptive silver plates surround the cup's base. The trophy was donated to the NRA in 1930 by the Coast Guard to be awarded to the high-scoring Coast Guardsman in the President's Match.

### Match Conditions:

1930-1967 To the high-scoring Coast Guardsman in the President's Match.

### TROPHY WINNERS

1930 ENS Henry F. Garcia, USCG 141  
1931 COX Marcus N. Cobb, USCG 141  
1932 CBM Paul Goulden, USCG 144  
1933 CMM Ervin Frye, USCG 144  
1934 CBM Paul Goulden, USCG 146  
1935 CBM James Q. Alligood, USCG 144  
1936 BM1 Melvon O. Wilson, USCG 144  
1937 F1C James D. Guy, USCG 145  
1938 RM1 Russell A. Banker, USCG 145  
1939 BM2 Charles B. Lockett, USCG 147  
1940 LTJG Ernest A. Cascini, USCG 146  
1941-52 NOT IN COMPETITION  
1953 LT Robert C. Taylor, USCG 142-9V  
1954 ---C.A. Long, USCG 140-8V  
1955 CDR Manson E Meekins, USCG 148-14V  
1956 MMC Edmond E. Hainestock, USCG 148-13V  
1957 ENS F.C. Brunner, USCG 139-7V-High Coast Guard but below cut off for Presidents 100  
1958 EN3 Jesse T. Rainwater, USCG 146-7V  
1959 LCDR Manson E. Meekins, USCG 147-13V  
1960 LT James I. Doughty, USCG 145-14V  
1961 CWO G.R. Pearce, USCG 146-15V  
1962 CPO Stephen Sperlak, USCG 146  
1963 PO2 Gary R. Moore, USCG 144-7V  
1964 PO2 Russell F. Brown, USCG 146-10V  
1965 CWO Stephen Sperlak, USCG 144-7V  
1966 NO COMPETITION  
1967 LT Merrill R. Menlove, USCG 283-4X

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<sup>47</sup> <http://compete.nra.org/documents/pdf/compete/nat-trophy/tro-065.pdf>

Appendix G-National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice/Civilian Marksmanship  
Program US Coast Guard Memorial Trophy

**U. S. COAST GUARD MEMORIAL TROPHY<sup>48</sup>**

**NATIONAL TROPHY PISTOL TEAM MATCH**



The Coast Guard presented the U. S. Coast Guard Memorial Trophy to the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice in 1957. This trophy commemorates Coast Guard personnel who lost their lives while in the Service. It is a replica of the Coast Guard Memorial located in Arlington Cemetery, with statuettes of Coast Guard personnel holding service pistols on either side of a central pyramid. The pyramid is cast in bronze and heavily plated in silver with an oxidized finish. It is awarded to the Highest scoring Reserve Component team in the National Trophy Pistol Team Match.

To date no Coast Guard Reserve Pistol Team has placed first in the Reserve component category of the National Trophy Pistol Team Match.

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<sup>48</sup> [http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/PT\\_USCG\\_Memorial.htm](http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies/PT_USCG_Memorial.htm)

## Appendix H-National Rifle Association National Championship Trophies won by the Coast Guard<sup>49</sup>



**The Coast Guard Trophy** is a bronze statuette of Alexander Hamilton, first Secretary of the Treasury and founder of the Coast Guard. The statuette is a miniature reproduction of the statue which stands at the South Gate of the Treasury Department in Washington, D.C. The trophy was donated by the U.S. Coast Guard to the NRA in 1930.

The course of fire in 1954, when won by Commander Christian R. Couser, US Coast Guard, was a rapid fire match consisting of 20 shots, 200 yards, sitting/kneeling with the service rifle.



**The Crowell Trophy** is a bronze statuette by Charles Schreyvogel entitled "The Last Drop." The statuette represents a U.S. Cavalryman of the last quarter of the 19th century emptying his canteen into his hat so that his horse can drink.

The trophy was donated to the NRA in 1925 by the Honorable Benedict Crowell of Cleveland, OH, Assistant Secretary of War, 1917 to 1920.

The course of fire in 1936 was ten shots slow fire prone at 600 yards with the service rifle and it was won that year by BMC Paul L. Goulden, US Coast Guard



**The DuPont Trophy** is a European bronze casting which depicts a mediaeval military bowman with arrow drawn, ready for its flight.

The trophy is over three feet tall and was donated to the NRA in 1923 by the E.I. DuPont de Nemours Company. The DuPont Trophy is awarded annually at the NRA High Power Service National Championships.

In 1931 Ensign Harry N. Renshaw, US Coast Guard shot the top score when the course of fire was 20 shots stand, 20 shots kneeling and 20 shots prone, all at 300 meters, with the Free Rifle.

In 1938 it was an aggregate of Coast Guard Trophy, Navy Cup, Wimbledon Cup, Marine Corps Cup, first half of Preliminary Smallbore Dewar and Clarke Memorial Pistol Matches and was won by GM1 Melvon O. Wilson, US Coast Guard who was declared the All Around Champion

<sup>49</sup> All trophy photographs and descriptions are credited to the National Rifle Association of America website at <http://compete.nra.org/nra-national-trophies.aspx>.





**The Enlisted Men's Team Trophy** is a 44-inch-high bronze statuette of a Marine enlisted man. It was purchased by the voluntary contributions of the enlisted men of the Marine Corps and presented to the NRA in 1910 for annual competition between teams of enlisted men representing the various armed services.

When the US Coast Guard Team took the trophy in 1932 and 1936 each team consisted of six enlisted shooters, two alternates, a Team Captain and Coach. Each firing member fired ten shots slow fire, standing at 200 yards and ten shots slow fire prone at 600 yards with the service rifle.

The course of fire in 1939 was ten shots slow fire standing at 200 yards and ten shots rapid fire sitting or kneeling from standing at 300 yards with the service rifle when US Coast Guard brought home the trophy for the third time.



**The Lee O. Wright Memorial Trophy** is a bronze statuette symbolic of man's aspiration to fly. It was presented by Major K.K.V. Casey to the NRA as a memorial to Major Lee O. Wright, U.S. Ordnance Corps, who was killed in line of duty at Brooks Field, Texas, on February 10, 1925 and posthumously promoted to Lieutenant Colonel.

The match conditions in the 1930s declared the match to be an aggregate of the Navy Cup, Leech Cup, Coast Guard Trophy, Marine Corps Cup, Wimbledon Cup and the Presidents Matches. BMC Paul L. Goulden, US Coast Guard won the Wright Trophy in 1933 and, again, in 1938.



**The Marine Corps Cup** is a double-handled silver cup about 20 inches high. Two figures of Marine riflemen, one standing and one kneeling, are embossed on the side. The trophy was donated to the NRA in 1909 by the officers of the U.S. Marine Corps.

When BM1 Arthur P. Minor, US Coast Guard won the cup in 1937 the match conditions were ten shots at 600 yards and 1000 yards with the service rifle.



**The Members' Trophy** is a sterling silver pitcher. It was placed in annual competition in 1901 by the National Rifle Association of America.

When, in 1937, BM2 Virgil W.B. Jansen, US Coast Guard won the trophy with a perfect score of 50-8V he shot ten shots at 600 yards slow fire prone. Over a half century later both the target and course of fire had changed for GM2 Karl E. Berggren, US Coast Guard who scored 198-5X with 20 shots, at 200 yards, slow fire, standing to win the trophy.



**The Navy Cup** is a covered silver punch bowl with a representation on the side of an ancient naval battle. Four feet extend from the base and the finial of the stepped bowl cover is surmounted by an eagle with spread wings. Crossed 1903 service rifles adorn the lid just below the eagle. The trophy was donated to the NRA for annual competition in 1923 by the United States Naval Association.

The Navy Cup has always been a 20 shot slow fire standing match and, as such, is considered to be the *ne plus ultra* of the high power standing matches.

BMC Paul L. Goulden, US Coast Guard and BM1 Melvin O. Wilson, US Coast Guard won this trophy in 1934 and 1936 respectively when the service rifle was required.



**The Rumbold Trophy** is a unique four-footed punch bowl. The bowl, hand-hammered of solid silver from silver dollars, is surmounted on opposite sides of its rim by two crouching figures of American Indians, one an early eastern tribesman and the other an early western. The trophy was donated to the NRA in 1910 by Brigadier General Frank M. Rumbold, Adjutant General of Missouri, for presentation to the winning team in the Championship Regimental Team Match fired in the National Matches. In 1937, the match for this trophy was first called the "Rumbold Trophy Match" and opened to teams from any NRA-affiliated organization.

Ten shots 200 yards rapid fire and 600 yards slow fire prone were fired with the service rifle by a ten man team in 1933 and 1935 when the US Coast Guard captured this trophy.



**The Scott Trophy** is a bronze statuette entitled "Ride 'em Cowboy," the work of Joy Clinton Shepherd. The trophy, a representation of a hat-waving cowboy on a bucking horse, was presented to the NRA in 1925 by Colonel Frank A. Scott.

MMC Ervin C. Frye, US Coast Guard won the Scott, back to back, in 1931 and 1932. BM1 Marcus N. Cobb, US Coast Guard took the trophy home in 1937. Both men fired ten shots, rapid fire, 300 yards, prone from standing.



**The Joel Sexton Trophy** was donated in 1998 by the Citadel Pistol Club. It was designed and crafted by Thelbert Almond in honor of Dr. Joel S. Sexton, Pistol Coach of The Citadel Pistol Team. The base of the trophy is solid walnut, with over-sized cartridges made of brass and steel as pillars. Elevated is a replica semi-automatic pistol machined specifically for the trophy.

The US Coast Guard Academy Bears won this trophy, emblematic of the collegiate pistol championship, in 2002.



**The Art Sievers Trophy** was presented to the NRA in 1994 by the University of Washington Shooting Club and Friends of Art, in honor of a lifetime of service to his country and the shooting sports. The trophy design combines an optical quality, clear leaded crystal obelisk placed on a two tiered solid walnut base, displaying plates for the engraving of the annual champions' names. The trophy is 26 inches tall.

It is awarded annually to the winner of the collegiate Air Pistol Team event, a four member team each shooting 60 shots at 10 meters.

The Coast Guard Academy Bears won the Sievers Trophy in 2002.



**The Roumanian Trophy** is a large ornate silver trophy. The trophy, manufactured in France, was presented to the winning American Expeditionary Force rifle team at the Inter-Allied Rifle and Pistol Competitions in Le Mans, France, in 1919. The Roumanian government, for which the trophy is named, requested that it be used for competition among teams representing the various United States armed forces. In 1921, General John Pershing presented the trophy to the NRA with the request that teams representing the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps compete for the cup every year.

The Coast Guard won this trophy in 1932 and 1933 when it was a competition between teams of six firing members from each of the following: U.S. Infantry, U.S. Cavalry, U.S. Engineers, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, the National Guard of each of the several states, territories and the District of Columbia. The course of fire was ten shots, 200 yards, standing, plus ten shots, 600 yards, prone, with the Service Rifle and Service Ammunition.

## Appendix I-National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice/Civilian Marksmanship Program National Championship Trophies won by the Coast Guard<sup>50</sup>

**The Pershing Trophy** was presented by General John J. Pershing (1860-1948), Commander of the American Expeditionary Force of World War 1, for team competition at the Inter-Allied Games in Paris in 1919. Won by the AEF, it was brought to the United States and placed in the custody of NBPRP with General Pershing's concurrence. The trophy is a bronze figure of a World War I soldier firing the service pistol.

The Pershing Trophy is awarded to the highest scoring competitor, civilian or military in the National Trophy Team Rifle Match.

Seaman First Class Rudolph Jones, US Coast Guard, won this award in 1938 with a score of 287X300. In doing so he shot perfect scores of 50X50 in both rapid fire sitting at 200 yards and rapid fire prone at 300 yards. (see appendix H for more details)



**The Infantry Trophy** was presented by United States Army Infantry, through private subscription among its officers and enlisted members, presented the Infantry Trophy to the NRA in 1922. The NRA placed the trophy in the custody of the NBPRP in 1936. This trophy depicts the combat infantryman in action. It is awarded to the winning team in the National Trophy Infantry Team Match.

The US Coast Guard, in what would be the zenith of the Coast Guard competitive shooting program, won this trophy at the 1940 National Matches, considered by many to be the classic National Championship .



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<sup>50</sup> All trophy photographs and descriptions are credited to the Civilian Marksmanship Program website at <http://www.thecmp.org/NM/Trophies.htm>

**The General Custer Trophy** was purchased by the NBPRP in 1926. It is a bronze statuette depicting General George Armstrong Custer (1828-1876) firing a pistol. It is awarded annually to the winner of the National Trophy Individual Pistol Match.

GM1 Stanford H. Hullstrom, US Coast Guard won this prestigious trophy in 1961.



**The Intercollegiate Trophy** was purchased by the NBPRP in 1958. The trophy is a sterling silver urn, on which is depicted a battle scene in what is believed to be the war between the Romans and Celts in 43-44 A.D.

It was awarded to the high Service Academy or Reserve Officer Training Corps competitor in the National Trophy Individual Match. The trophy was designated in 2002 and is now presented to the high senior in the same event.

United States Coast Guard Academy Bears took home this award for three consecutive years: Cadet Janine Lavalley in 1994 and 1995 and Cadet Joseph Brown in 1996.



**The Alden Partridge Trophy** was presented to the NBPRP in 1971 by the President of Norwich University, Northfield, Vermont. The trophy is a bronze bust of General Alden Partridge, founder and first president of the university. Norwich was the first institution of higher learning to include military training as a part of its curriculum and is credited as the founding school of what is now known as the ROTC program.

Before it was retired from competition in 2009 it has awarded to the highest scoring Service Academy or Reserve Officer Training Corps team in the National Trophy Pistol Match.

The Partridge Trophy was won by the United States Coast Guard Academy Bears in 1992, 1994, 1995, and 1996.



## Appendix J- The Saga of Rudolph's Jones' Pershing Trophy

Saturday September 10, 1938 was the end of two long days for Coast Guard Seaman First Class Rudolph Jones. He had suffered through the typical hot humid late summer days usually found on the firing line at Camp Perry, Ohio during the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice's National Trophy Matches. His left bicep had been held in a tourniquet like grip by the M1903 rifle sling attached to his Springfield Model 1903 Rifle which had pounded his shoulder with the recoil of 60 rounds of .30-06 service ammunition.

While a bit sore and weary Jones also beamed with pride. He had put together a pretty tall score, dropping 13 points out of a possible 300, to be the top gun on the United States Coast Guard Rifle Team in the National Trophy Team Match. Six of those points slipped away during the first stage of the match, slow fire standing at 200 yards. After the rapid fire stages, ten shots at 200 yards sitting and another ten at 300 yard from the prone position he was still only down six-all 20 of his rapid fire shots had hit the black for two perfect 50s. The second day of the match was all prone and he followed up his short-range performance with a 48-slow fire prone at 600 yards and a 95 slow fire prone at 1,000 yards totaling a team high 287X300, six points ahead of his nearest teammate, Gunner's Mate Second Class Peter Marcoux.

When the statistical office had tallied and collated all the scores Jones found himself not only the best Coastie but the best of the 1,250 riflemen who had fired the match. As well as he shot it was a close finish as Jones won on a tie breaker. Corporal Clifford W. Rawlings, of the Marine Team, had fired the same aggregate score but Jones' 1,000-yard score was a point better.

Jones was a bit disappointed that his effort did not help his team do any better than third overall. Nevertheless, he took great pride in winning the Pershing Trophy and was presented a smaller keeper version of the trophy along with a gold medal for his efforts.

The North Carolina native, now a Gunner's Mate, was stationed at the Coast Guard Academy, New London, Connecticut during the early years of World War II. Upon being detached from the Academy he asked a shipmate, Charles E. Benedict, to take care of his bulky keeper trophy until he returned. It is supposed that the gold medal, being more easily transported, went with him.

Jones disappeared into the mists of history but Benedict, true to his word, safeguarded the trophy, awaiting Jones' return, until his death when the trust was passed on to his daughter Carol. Seventy years after Jones asked Benedict to look after the trophy Richard Chiango, Benedict's son in law, contacted the author, in August of 2013, asking for help in locating Jones, or his next of kin, so that the trophy might be returned.

Jones being a common name, a fruitless search resulted. It was then suggested to Chiango that the trophy be donated to the Civilian Marksmanship Program, the successor organization to the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice, who



might welcome the historical artifact to its trophy collection. Chiango contacted the CMP's Christie Sewell, who was delighted at the idea, and started the ball rolling for the acquisition of the trophy.

After seven decades in limbo Jones' keeper trophy now stands next to the original in a place of honor in one of the display window that fronts the CMP's headquarters at Camp Perry. It arrived almost exactly 75 years after it had been presented to Jones and rests just a short distance from where it was earned on that long-ago September 1938 afternoon.

Its presence next to the original is both a tribute to Jones' skill as a rifleman and the honorable discharge of a trust. As Robert Service wrote in *The Cremation of Sam McGee*, "A promise made is a debt unpaid" and so, more than seven decades after making the promise to Jones, the Benedict/Chiango family has paid its debt in full.



Jones' keeper is shown here with the original as displayed by the CMP. The Pershing Trophy was presented by General of the Armies John J. Pershing (1860-1948), Commander of the American Expeditionary Force of World War 1, for team competition at the Inter-Allied Games in Paris in 1919. Won by the AEF, it was brought to the United States and placed in the custody of National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice with General Pershing's concurrence. The trophy is a bronze figure of a World War I soldier firing, oddly enough for a rifle match, the service pistol.

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