

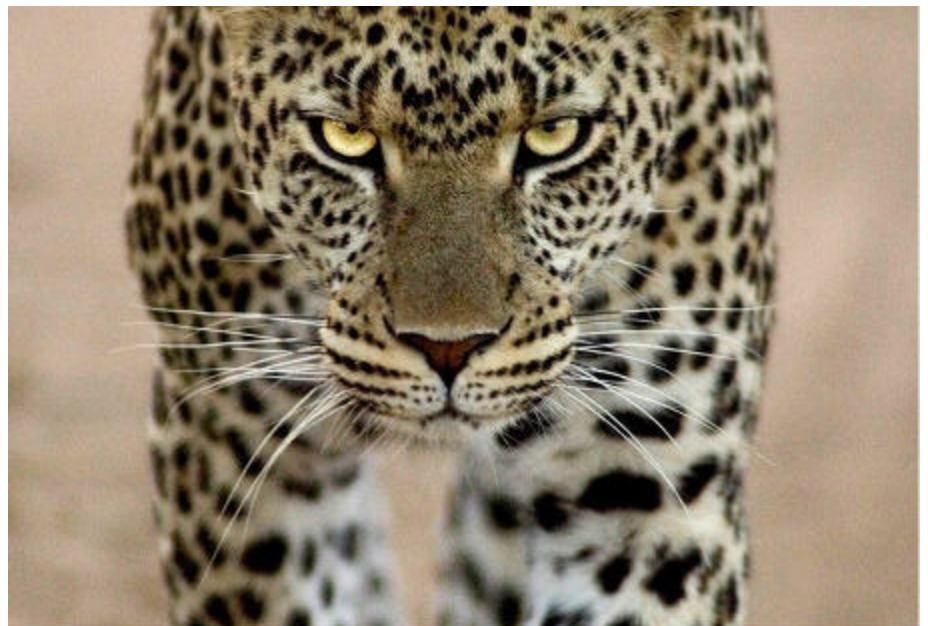
June, 1st, 2009



Just in case some of you do not read the threads on TS.com we made an announcement with regards to the July "Infinity" raffle in Kentucky. Times are tough and we have made an attempt to sell the tickets for the raffle going on two years. Last year it was \$ 5.00 gas and this year it was the stock market and all the layoffs. The raffle has been officially cancelled and the Saturday BBQ as well. We just did not get the support that was needed to pull off the raffle. I feel like I some how failed in the promotion of this event but there is very limited media material by which to get the message out the shooters. Maybe when things turn around we will make another attempt but for now

I know when it is time to fold the cards. We will begin the refund process as soon as possible, please be patient. Thank you to all that purchased tickets and good shooting to all in the coming year.

Sincerely yours,
Dennis R. DeVault



DeVault's Winners Box

George Dyll: MachOne by DeVault Industries George State Shoot Veteran Singles Champion 195 x 200 Veteran Doubles class champion and Doubles Champion 95 x 100 & 96 x 100

George Rezabek: Custom Stock by DeVault Industries on Kolar Max Trap Combo Southern Grand Doubles Class A Champion 99 x 100

Tal Seger: Infinity by DeVault Industries Northern Illinois Zone Shoot In State Singles Champion lone 200 x 200 Missouri State Shoot, Thursday Handicap 27yd. Champion 99 x 100

Phil Turner: Kolar Combo Double D Shooting Clinic Saturday May 23 2009 Buffalo Gun Club Memorial Day Event Handicap Champion 97 x 100

Keith Koosman: Browning XT O/U, Double D Shooting Clinic First ever 100 straight at Buffalo Gun Club Memorial Day Weekend Shoot

Congratulations to everyone!!

The World According to Me ~ "Dennis DeVault"

Just a little side note. Dean and I finished our first two clinics in the month of May. From the response that we got I think that everyone had a great time and went away with new knowledge that will allow them to be a better shooter. I observed one thing during the clinics. Most people have no idea where their guns shoot. To us this is a very critical element in proper shooting and breaking targets. We were not too concerned about the height, but the gun has to shoot left to right, in the center. One gun we checked shot 9 inches right and 90% low. Dean called the manufacturer and they are going to replace the barrel. Another gun we checked shot 9" to the left and was a tougher fix, but we were able to get it straight, before the clinic began. Another key point is the Magic Wand. That I know of this item does not exist. Breaking targets and good scores come from hard work, and the short cuts only lead to more problems, at a later date. Now for this months topic. Length of pull (LOP) and is it important? For those of us that shoot up in the Northern part of the country LOP is very important. Every year I see my fellow shooters struggle with the length of their guns when the Fall sets in and they begin to pile on clothes. The stock is suddenly too long. I watch as the struggle begins and usually takes about 3 to 4 weeks for the shooters to make the adjustment. The adjustment is usually turning the

body sideways, rolling the shoulders back and turning the face into the stock. This sudden change in the mount now brings the front hand back on the forearm to accommodate the extra length. When you move the front hand back on the forearm you increase your gun speed and decrease your accuracy. The second problem with this stance is that it promotes arm shooting. The kiss of death when shooting targets. All of your moves should begin and end from the waist and the legs. When you arm shoot you move the gun from the shoulders and the arms. You have tremendous strength in your shoulders and arms and it is easier to move from the arms than to drive the legs and waist. Also when the master eye is turned in toward the comb of the gun the non-shooting eye moves ahead of the shooting eye. The non-shooting eye now has the opportunity to have a better view of the target and a cross-fire situation may become the end result. Provided you have the proper LOP to begin with, all this can be avoided by just having your LOP set up with two recoil pads. Make the LOP of your gun the proper length for Summer time shooting by using a 1" thick recoil pad and having the gun smith grind a second recoil pad for Winter time shooting. I usually recommend a # 6 or 5/8" thick recoil pad for the Winter time. With the extra clothing the 3/8" shorter pad is just about the right thickness to allow the gun to feel the same as the summer pad. With this set-up the transition from Summer to Winter should not be too difficult and you may prevent all the bad habits from creeping into your game by trying to

shoot a stock that is too long. Just from personal experience I consider myself one of the best gun fitters in the country, but now and then even I get a case of a dumb ass attack! In North East Ohio this past Winter it got cold a little earlier than usual. Feeling very cocky, 10' tall and bullet proof, I did not change my LOP. When I finally had to put on the shooting jacket in about January, I called my buddy Dean DeBow, and ask him if I could maybe come down and see him. Dean asked "Why?" I said "I think I have gone blind and I am sure I am cross firing." I told him I could not buy a target off of post five and it was driving me crazy. I had even decided that my shooting career was coming to an end. It was time to hang up the shooting vest and sit in the Club House. As if things were not bad enough Dean just started laughing at me over the phone. This was not quite the response I had been looking for. After the laughter, and wiping away the tears, he ask me if I remembered to put on the other pad for winter? He said, "Put on the thinner pad and call me next week." Well all is wonderful in target land again! I suddenly started to shoot better and after two weeks of practice and flushing out all the bad habits, things have returned to normal. Now understand that normal in my world is a question mark, just ask a few of my friends; so as normal for me as it gets. The weather has finally started to clear up and my shooting has definitely improved. Until next month,

Rodeo Man Out

From the Mind of ~ Dean DeBow

Hello fellow shooters,

This month let's talk about shooting styles. Each one of us has our own style of shooting; we are as different in shooting as we are in the shoes we wear. A lot of people wear a size 11 D shoe or a 10.5 M. Some wear inserts, some have high arches, some are flatfooted. Some of us have injuries that prevent us from moving or standing a certain way. We can try to copy others, but when it comes down to it, your own individual style or form, is going to work better for you than any other, if used correctly. Please do not give up on your individual style of shooting. I was very fortunate to meet many very good shooters when I started this game. However, it was also apparent that, just because someone is a good shooter it does not mean that person is a good teacher. I ask one of the top shooters in the late 80's why he did not teach. The reply was not what I expected. He said, "I am not good at communicating with people!" So right out of the gate, that gave me a different view on shooting instructors. This also gave me an advantage from the point of seeing the game played successfully, by a wide array of styles, opinions, and different approaches. It took a couple of years to find that I could not copy someone else's style and be consistent in my scores. I took a class nine months into this game, and it helped me. I knew nothing but what God had given me, plus a few pointers from an instructor in Doubles, and advice from club members. I became friends with a couple of other instructors, one I met my sec-

ond month of shooting, who helped me get started correctly in Doubles. Three to four years into shooting, I started to realize there was a difference in the way each person who played this game well, did it. The approaches used were very individualized. All though, I had my successes, I knew something had to change if I wanted to be competitive. Seven years into shooting, I found my style and things started to come together. To play this game requires nothing short of hard work and practice. Get help from someone you can trust, who can tell you what you are doing wrong, not just where you shot when you miss a target. How you missed is usually only a symptom of the problem, not the real problem. If you do not know someone use a camera to video yourself. It is a good idea, when you are shooting well, to have something to look at or a journal to refer back to. If you are not doing as well as you would like get with an instructor who can help you find your game. It is up to you to go to them with an open mind to try new things. Take small steps to look for answers. All too often people go to extremes when looking for answers. Many people shoot a gun that is too long that does not fit, or has a point of impact that is too low. They have never had their eyes checked by an eye doctor who understands the application and what your eyes are being used for! No instructor can fix these problems in the field. If possible get all of this completed

before you take a class. If you are serious about your game you owe it to yourself to be as ready as possible, and eliminate any possible problems, so you can concentrate on breaking targets. We all have heard of someone who took an "out of the box" H&R single barrel, with an add on rib and a homemade release trigger that won an event! That may be extreme, but you get the idea. Please do not let a few good scores in a two to three year period stop you from changing something that will make you even better. For example; I sold the gun I used to break my first Grand Slam; now that is change! If you are reading this, you must love shooting as much as I do. If this helps one person, then it is worth the time and effort; for you and for me. I wish you all a great shooting season and hope you enjoy every moment. Yesterday is gone and tomorrow is but a dream. Stay in the moment, as you break targets and build memories.

Because there is a champion in each and every one of you.

Until next time,

Dean DeBow



Private **One-on-One** instruction Contact Dean DeBow @
270-348-2223

If you have a group of 10 shooters we can arrange for a clinic to be held at your local gun club.

Check out our web site at www.ddshooting.com for all the details

Clinic dates are listed on this page and up-dated as we fill these clinics.

Shooting lessons, video work, stock fitting and the mental game to help you become the best that you can be!

Reach us on the web or call the number above for Dean and for Dennis DeVault **330-456-6070**

Thank you and let us know how we can be of service!

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