

April 1, 2011

DeVault Industries LLC

Custom Engineered Shooting Solutions

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DeVault Winners Box

Sam Boatman ~ Remington 90-T ~ Double D Clinics ~ Local 50 bird event in the high winds. 27yd. Champion 49 x 50

Thomas Rojewski ~ K-80 Sporting gun ~ DeVault Delrin Add-On Rib ~ 2011 Seminole Cup, Florida ~ 28 ga. race 48 x 50 tied for HOA and Vet-1 ~ 410 ga. Class AA second 43 x 50 ~ 20 ga. Class AA 5th 40 x 50

Remember if you have a winning score, personal best or a win in a league send me an e-mail so we can add your name to the winners box. Everyone likes to see their name in lights.



I don't know what this is but it looks kind of cool. Lots of bright colors and nature at it finest.

The World According to Me ~ "Dennis DeVault"

I had my newsletter written and ready but had to make a last minute change. Last week I was on my way to teach a clinic in Long Island New York. My son (Paul) and I were in New York when my wife called to let me know that a very dear friend Red Hill had passed away sometime early Friday morning. Red was a dear friend and a shooting mentor who taught me a tremendous amount about shooting and teaching other people to shoot. He stood over 6 feet tall and was an avid skeet shooter. He was known around the skeet circuit as the Thin Man. I am not sure of the year but I believe it was in the 70's that he won the World 410 Skeet Championship. He served in the Military as a Marine and he leaves behind (5) children, (3) sons and (2) daughters. I met Red in about 2002 in Florida where he was living and teaching. The lesson was to be at the Port of The Islands Gun Club near Naples. I would like to tell a little story. When I spoke with Red on the phone and arranged for the lesson he said that he knew of me and would love to have me come down and spend some time shooting and talking shop. I went in the spring after the Florida State Shoot. Having never met Red I knew immediately who he was, as I looked down the trap line a tall very thin man stood looking over the morning group. He was wearing a pressed kaki button down shirt, green cargo pants and the Marine Corp Drill Sergeants hat that was perfectly level, not a wrinkle or a thread out of place and very disciplined. He approached the car noticing the Ohio plates and shook my hand and introduced himself.

Right away I sensed that shooting was very serious to him and there would be no nonsense tolerated while he was teaching. He told me to get my equipment ready and let him know when I wanted to start. Not much was said and when it was my turn he just told me to take a position and shoot a round of singles just as I would if I were at home. He wanted to observe how I shot and approached each target. After the first round I had broken a 25 straight and when I walked off the line he just kind of laughed and asked me what I came to see him for. He said, "You broke all of the targets what more is there." Answer, "I wanted to really get into the meat of the game." Next Red asked a little about my background and then he looked at me and said, "So you really want to learn, well come over here and let me show what I want you to do."

We went to a picnic table where he got a piece of paper and drew a diagram of a trap house and explained where he wanted me to hold my gun on each station and where to hold my eyes for each station as well. This was very foreign to me but I came to learn and thought I would give it a try. For the first 15 targets I never hit a single target. As I moved I was thinking that this guy is crazy and this was a waste of time. As I moved to the next post I decided that I would just go back to my old way of shooting and he would not know the difference. That was a bad choice on my part. I called and crushed the next two targets but when I put the gun up for the third target I called three times and nothing appeared. I noticed a shadow approaching my left side and a voice very stern said. "Boy unload your weapon and stand at attention." I unloaded the gun and Red stepped in front of me and stuck that drill sergeants hat right in the middle of my forehead. He commanded me to look him in the eyes when he was talking. I proceeded to get the worst ass chewing of my life right in front of about 15 other shooters. Red told me that if I didn't want to listen to what he told me to do then I should pack up my stuff and head back to Canton and take up Golf because I would never be a shooter. Red asked me if I was going to listen or go home. I just replied that I was ready to listen. I tried to further explain that I wasn't hitting any targets and he said, "This was not about hitting anything right now." I was very upset to say the least and in all my years no one had ever yelled at me like that and gotten away with it. I spent the rest of the day pissed off and had some mild success in breaking a few targets but all in all it was a miserable day.

At the end of the first day Red approached and asked me if I like cheeseburgers and shooting pool. I replied yes and he handed me a paper with an address. He told me that my real lesson would come tonight over dinner and playing pool and he said, " Oh by the way dinner is on you see you at 7 sharp don't be late."

I met Red for dinner and he asked me if I was still upset. I asked him why he did that in front of everyone. His answer, "You are a very stubborn person and that is a good quality but I had to do something to get your attention so you would open your mind and listen." He further stated, "Back in the day I would have just mud stomped you but I am a civilian now and I can't do that anymore." After we ate he took me in the back room to play pool where we played until 1:00 in the morning. It was at the pool table that I learned how to shoot a target and to mentally approach the game. For me having an engineering background Red appealed to that side of me and explained that shooting was all about lines and angles. We spent those hours on the pool table doing all bank shots where I had to quickly calculate angles. After the first hour it was speed pool for the rest of the night having to calculate my moves ahead as I was resting and when it was my shot the timer was on and I only had a certain amount of time to calculate my shot. I know this may seem very weird but I can't tell you how much I learned. The next two days were a blur as he flooded me with info and all the knowledge that he was giving me. At some point in the weekend He walked up to me and asked if I could break the next target out of the house for \$ 100.00. I never blinked but answered immediately that it would be a piece of cake. He told me to show him and no matter what I had to break the next target. I got ready, called for the target and got a slow pull, I waited until the target came out and crushed it. Red laughed and said "You just learned two very valuable lessons today." One you are not getting my \$100.00 and secondly if you can break one target on command you can break 100 straight. The key is to break one target at a time. On the last day I had one more task to perform for Red. He asked me to take his 1100 skeet gun to the 27 yard line and shoot a round of 25. I started to object and Red stopped me and asked me to remember what he taught me and just do it. I broke a 24 with a gun that didn't fit and it was easy. He congratulated me as we shook hands.

I went to the car and wrote Red a check for the time we spent and handed it to him. He just looked at me and said, "The world does not need another All-American shooter, but what it does need is a person that understands the dynamics of the game and how to teach it." He then asked me if I would do something for him, "Will you give up your pursuit of shooting and devote the rest of your life to building stocks, guns and teaching?" He further stated that if I would not be selfish and share what he would continue to teach me that check would never be cashed. I am here to tell you that the check was never cashed. Red was a very unique person and he continued to share many things with me until he passed away.

The world of shooting has lost a tremendous talent and it will be years until someone comes along that can replace the knowledge that he had. I can only hope to fill his shoes and carry on as Red wanted me to.

Good-bye old friend and may the peace of the Lord shine upon you wherever you may be. And Red, every now and then check up on me and keep me on the path as only you knew how to do. Semper Fi

Until next month,

Rodeo Man Out



We are starting to Schedule dates for 2011. If anyone wants to schedule a clinic at their favorite club let Dean or Dennis know so we can put you in the schedule. Watch the web site for dates and locations as we post the schedule www.ddshooting.com Contact Dean @ 270-886-2095 or Dennis @ 330-456-6070. We look forward to seeing everyone in 2011.

May 13th thru May 15th ~ Buffalo Gun Club, Buffalo Minnesota

June 4th & 5th ~ Fort Worth Trap & Skeet, Fort Worth Texas

June 17th thru June 19th ~ Redlands Trap & Skeet, Redlands, Ca.

July 23rd & 24th ~ North Side Sportsman's, Pa.

Check back at the web site to see our schedule for 2011

We are proud to announce the opening of our newest Company

Wood Sales LLC

This company has been set up to offer hard to find large blanks that will accommodate the new High Rib guns that have dominated the market for the past few years. If you are in the market for a good piece of wood that is dry and ready to carve have a look and come back from time to time to find your dream piece for your next project. The site can be found at

<http://www.customwoodblanks.com>

Stock Special of the month. This monster Grafted English Walnut blank is dry and ready. This blank is listed on our web site. The order number is WE-1001-26-A This months special is priced at \$1,000.00 through March 12, 2011 This special is for our newsletter subscribers only for the month of April.





Hi Everyone,

Well guess what? I have my own little corner in Dennis' newsletter. He has asked me to share some of my recipes with our lady readers and also to the men who like to cook. Cooking and Wine are a few of the many things I truly enjoy besides checkering all those stocks and forends Dennis lines up like little soldiers behind me at my work station. For those of you that have been to our shop you know what I am talking about.

I love to cook and I am always experimenting with new recipes or making up my own concoctions and I use Dennis as my guinea pig. We have been married for 34 years and the little fellow will still eat whatever I put in front of him.... now that is true love ahahaha.

The following is a new recipe that I made for this past Thanksgiving Dinner and it was a big hit, Dennis keeps asking me to "make that squash thing" so if you like Butternut Squash you need to give it a try.

Butternut Squash

3 tablespoons butter
1 large onion, diced
2-1/4 pounds butternut squash
1 cup chopped pecans
3 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
Salt and pepper to taste
Dried cranberries (this was not in the original recipe but I added them)

Place the pecans on an ungreased baking sheet and roast at 350 degrees for 5 to 8 minutes. Peel the squash and remove seeds and cut into 1/2 inch cubes. You should have close to 6 cups of squash. Melt butter in a heavy large skillet over low heat and add onion and sauté until they are very tender about 15 minutes. Add squash and toss to coat. This is when I put the dried cranberries in so they will soften and cook with the squash. Cover and cook until squash is tender but still holds it's shape, stirring frequently about 15 minutes should do it. Season to taste with salt and pepper. Stir in the pecans and parsley saving a little of each to sprinkle on top before serving. This dish can be prepared 4 hours ahead of time. Just let it stand at room temperature and rewarm it over medium heat before adding the pecans and parsley.

I am always trying something new so if someone has a special recipe or one that is a family favorite that they would like to share with me or even post in my newsletter for all of our readers just shoot me an e-mail, my address is: ckdevault@yahoo.com

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