



Scouts Learn Shooting at National Jamboree

By PHIL SCHREIER, NRA Staff

For seven days last August, 35,000 Boy Scouts from all over the United States and 14 foreign countries turned the U.S. Army's Fort A.P. Hill into Virginia's largest tent city. During the week-long National Jamboree, Scouts got to try dozens of activities, including warm weather mountain skiing, rock climbing and rappelling, and sitting behind the controls of a Space Shuttle command console.

Among the busiest stops on the program were the shooting sports activity centers. Scouts could pick up tips on rifle shooting from Olympic gold medalist Launi Meili at the air gun range. Nearly 1,600 boys earned the gun safety requirement toward rifle and shotgun shooting merit badges, and almost 16,000 Scouts took the opportunity to shoot an abbreviated round of trap.

Before the actual firing began, each Scout received a short course in gun safety from an NRA-certified instructor as well as basic marksmanship lessons. Then they donned their required ear and eye protection and, using Winchester 20-gauge shotguns donated by the manufacturer, took a turn at one of three trap stations available. Each shooter got to fire at five targets, after which he could go to the end of the line and try again.

Tennessee Scout Adam Gantt was one of 16,000 boys who had a chance to shoot trap at the recent National Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill, Va. All shooters received instruction in firearm safety and shooting fundamentals, then stepped up to the line to apply what they learned.



Photos by Author

Congratulations, Junior Silhouette Champs!



Staff