

Gun Club Conducts Marksmanship Clinic For Army Reserve Units

The Ponca City Rifle and Pistol Club recently hosted 2 companies of the 3rd Battalion 378th Regiment of the US Army Reserve unit headquartered in Norman, OK. to a weekend marksmanship clinic at their shooting complex near Ponca City. About 30 soldiers attended this clinic.

The soldiers (who hail from all walks of life in their civilian lives) were able to learn about and actually practice many firearm marksmanship and usage techniques. For this clinic, the Ponca City Rifle and Pistol Club furnished experienced instructional personnel. Most of these instructors are also certified by the NRA or other outside agencies in the firearm discipline they were instructing. In most instances the soldiers had a one-on-one with their instructor for the shooting portion of their training.

The Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation also participated with two game rangers conducting their excellent State sponsored Shotgun Training and Education Program (STEP).

The soldiers were able to learn about and actually shoot shotguns, rim fire rifles, rim fire pistols, center fire AR-15 rifles and center fire Beretta 9mm pistols. The center fire rifles and pistols are the civilian version of the M-16 military rifle and the M-9 military pistol respectively. The rifles and pistols were loaned by members of the club. Shotguns and clay targets were furnished by the State of Oklahoma. Rifle and pistol ammunition and targets were furnished by the club.

One of the highlights of the clinic was the urban combat exercise using the M-9 pistol. Soldiers were placed in a simulated urban environment where there were simulated armed hostiles in the area and their task was to clear the area of those hostiles. To do this required shooting from behind cover and then traversing a short open area where they had to shoot at pop-up hostiles while on the move. The last pop-up target contained a non-combatant hostage and they were required to fine -tune their shooting to avoid hitting the hostage.

Drinking water was provided by Quality Water Service, ice by Ponca Ice, and fabrication of target mechanisms etc by Mitchco. Club members furnished most other materials especially Randy and Vickie Dailey. Randy served as Clinic Director and Vickie as hostess for this event.

Information on the Ponca City Rifle and Pistol Club Inc (including a membership application and cost) and a map to the shooting complex can be found on the club's website at www.poncarpc.org.

Information on the Junior Rifle Club for youngsters ages 12-18 can be obtained by calling 580-762-9457 or 580-765-7324.

Information on State of Oklahoma sponsored programs can be found at www.wildlifedepartment.com.

National Rifle Association (NRA) information can be obtained at www.nra.org.

Information on the United States Army Reserve at www.GoArmy.com/Reserve.

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Army Reserve soldiers fire the AR-15 rifle. Instructors stand behind them for coaching.



Army Reserve soldiers fire highly accurate match grade rim fire rifles.
(L-R) Instructors Joanna Dailey and Holly Dailey sit nearby to coach them.

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(L-R) Instructor Doug Stover monitors the performance of an Army Reserve soldier as she fires a rim fire pistol.



(L-R) Range Officer John Steele coaches. Army Reserve soldier First Sergeant Hill as he shoots at a pop-up target while on the move.

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(L-R) Instructor Grady Rickman watches as Army Reserve Sgt Cox fires the M-9 from one knee.



(L-R) Army Reserve Sgt Arpoika receives the top center fire pistol shooter award from Randy Dailey.

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