



LONG GONG



A3GMunitions.com and River Bend Gun Club hosted our LONG GONG match on August 16th despite the brutal temperature and Heat Advisories; how did all us older folks survive the 70s, 80s and 90s without Alexa and the news media telling us it is hot outside. It is almost like being surprised that Florida gets Hurricanes! Anyway I digress....

For those who are not sure what LONG GONG is all about here is a link to a description and the rules: <https://a3gmunitions.com/long-gong-hosted-by-a3gmunitions-com/>.

We started the day with 15 shooters and heat claimed two folks before the match ended, a youngster and a middle aged gent. Granted the youngster just had a birthday



and may have still been hungover from 2 days ago so there is that (and most of us who did survive the 70s have been there...some more than once).

We now have an official following at RBGC in Long Gong and it is great to see a bunch of folks who were with us for the first match still coming out. I have to say as the match director it is absolutely fantastic to see some of the guys who started shooting with us in our first or second match and posting scores they were not happy with now being contenders for a win. Seeing these guys stick with it and get better and better every month makes running the match worth all the work. I will say however that **WE NEED MORE GIRLS SHOOTING THIS!** Ladies, we won't bite, cuss or behave poorly so please consider joining us.



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OK I will have to make sure Daddy M behaves himself but the rest of us are docile.

The match was contested on the High Power range (seems like groundhog day, we have been on HP for the last 3 months) where the wind calls are always a challenge but it was a



weird day today. Normally we can see the wind in the trees, grass, mirage or wind flags but the wind today was very stealthy. It was almost like there was a big fan behind the wall in the pits moving our bullets at the last minute. We did have several competitors bring tents so we had lots of shade but maybe the 7

or 8 tents changed our ability to call the wind when it was at our backs. Whatever the reason it was great to see some new names at the top of the list.

Out of 720 shots fired there were only 11 hits on the 4" Gong today, that is brutal! The highest score in a single relay was a 17 posted by both Steve Tidd and me and as it would happen we both got a total of 40 points for the match and tied for third overall. Steve did it with 3 hits in a row on the 4" Gong and is one of the folks who started with us and comes



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out every month. Simon, hungry for his 83rd win came out (yes, I am exaggerating but those who know Simon know he is always lurking at the top of the leader board and is very adept at throwing up a record score in the last 2 minutes of the game) and mother nature picked on him all day. Simon and a newcomer, Travis who drove down from the top of the state, tied for second with 46s. And our winner was another gent who was with us in the



beginning, Robert Strother who only posted one bad relay on the day, he started strong and finished strong for a score of 47.



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Josh, Tom and Russell all threw up some good scores with Josh taking 4th outright and Tom and Russell tied for 5th.

And there were a handful of guys who struggled with the wind but let me tell you, it is so nice to shoot with guys who can have a bad day and keep it light and fun. As I like to say "There is no bass boat for the winner so don't take the match or your performance too seriously, we are here for the fellowship and to have a good time."

I am bummed to say that TV Dinner had an engagement elsewhere and could not join us but there were tons of shards of PVC on the ground so he was there in spirit!

I do want to thank the entire crew from the match for making it a great day and helping me clean up and tear down! I cannot tell you how much it helps my sanity to have the help policing brass, picking up the shards of PVC and just general help tearing down and getting the range back to the way we found it. It makes the rest of the weekend much more relaxing! Thank you!!!



Congratulations to all the participants and thank you for coming out! Our next match is September 20th on the HP range (ugh! Again!!!) and the Long Gong Gypsy match is on 9/28. at 2PM. The Gypsy match will be on the Silhouette range and I will be doing a Long Gong clinic that morning at 10AM for those who would like to attend, it

will be free and I will cover everything from setting up your gun to ammo to wind calls and dialing vs holding dope. There will be some trigger time involved so if you are shooting the Gypsy match that afternoon please bring plenty of ammo. As usual I will have some ammo on site for sale or you can order it ahead of time and I will deliver it at the match.



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Here are the August results:

	Relay 1	Relay 2	Relay 3	Relay 4	Relay 5	Total
Robert Strother	14	11	8	3	11	47
Travis Lunsford	5	8	12	13	8	46
Simon Bailey	11	9	11	5	10	46
Mark Leeber	10	4	7	17	2	40
Steve Tidd	7	6	8	2	17	40
Josh Randall	10	5	6	9	7	37
Tom Francis	6	9	9	6	6	36
Russell Hill	4	11	13	3	5	36
David Massengill	4	8	8	4	3	27
Scott Rutherford	2	3	8	8	4	25
John Kahl	8	4	6	1	1	20
Mark Palermo	3	2	4	3	6	18
Rick Federation	4	3	5	1	1	14
Taylor Rutherford	8	4	5	3	DNF	DNF
Bryan Fain	4	0	DNF			DNF

Here is the schedule for the rest of the year:

- September 20th – HP Range 300 yard line
- Monday, September 28th – SIL Range – On The Books! (Gypsy Match)
- October – No Match (no room on the calendar)
- November 8th – SIL Range
- December 20th – SIL Range

And for those who really enjoy Long Gong there are only two Rimfire Benchrest matches left on the 2026 calendar, 8/23 and 9/27. All Rimfire Benchrest matches are on the Jim Hinkle Range. And we have a Rimfire Silhouette match on the Saturdays before Long Gong; I am going to give that a shot, it sounds like a blast!

Thank you!

Mark