

Club Sends 9 to Orange Blossom Regionals (OBR)



Early this month, club members pictured made the trip over to Port Malabar, FL to shoot in the F-Class portion of the annual OBR matches. The OBR is arguably the top rifle match in the State, drawing top shooters from the Midwest, New England, Puerto Rico and Brazil. Against this tough competition, the guys held their own, with Jim Downer earning a 1st Master award in the 300, 500, 600 yd match in Sunday's match. This was Jim's first time at OBR, and first time shooting at the 500 and 600 yd distances. Great job, Jim! Pete Bono was back shooting well again but was bedeviled by two crossfires during the three-day 600 yd matches, costing him 20 points and a trip to the podium. But Pete is clearly back on his game.

Aside from the shooting, it was a great trip for the guys. Jack Sapp played host for the daily post-match festivities held in his luxurious trailer (background in picture below). Thanks Jack. Dining at area restaurants each night provided the opportunity for an exchange of bad shooting advice, exaggerations, excuses, and just plain lies. Also loads of laughs and a great sense of camaraderie.

Port Malabar is a first rate shooting facility and does a great job with these matches. The consensus was that this was a great experience...hopefully, we will send an even larger group next year...and get some more podium time! By: John McGowen

Thank you Pete Bono and Jack Dean for also providing the following information:

Dave Mommaerts, Sidney (Jack) Sapp, John McGowen, Bruce Knapp and Jack Dean shot the 3-day match, March 1, 2 & 3rd, 2018

Rich Bonnett and John Popejoy shot the Sunday match, March 4th, 2018.

Pete Bono and Jim Downer shot all four days, March 1, 2, 3 & 4th, 2018.

Thursday, Friday & Saturday, March 1, 2 & 3rd, 2018 Orange Blossom Regionals:

Jim Downer placed 1st in his class and Category.

Pete Bono placed 2nd in his class and Category (police)

Dave Mommaerts placed 3rd place in his class and Category (police)

Sidney (Jack) Sapp placed 6th place in class and Category (police)

John McGowen placed 7th in his class and Category.

Bruce Knapp placed 7th in his class and Category.

Jack Dean placed 10th in his class and Category.

Sunday, March 4th, 2018 - Aggregate of Matches (300, 500 and 600 yards):

Jim Downer MA-1st place for NRA Master

John Popejoy MA-1st place for Grandis Senior

Richard Bonnett HM-2nd place for Grandis Senior

Pete Bono HM-3rd place for Police