Air Guns Today
Not your Father’s Daisy BB Gun!

Daisy Red Ryder BB Gun

Gary Perlick
Villages Air Gun Club
3/15/2012
Air Gun History

- **1580** – One of Earliest Air Guns
  - Bellows – Hand Pump
  - .40 caliber, 36 gauge

- **1600** – First Pneumatic Air Gun Appeared
  - Spring – Piston Compressed Air Design
  - Lead ball, Large caliber

- **1800** – Most accurate large bore rifles
  - High Cost – Affordable by Few
  - Efficient Operation <600 psi
Air Gun History

- Early 1800s
  - Repeater Air Gun Developed – 20 shots
  - .33, .39, & .46 caliber Air Guns
  - Austrian Army outfitted with air gun repeaters overwhelmed Napoleon's Army using muzzle loading firearms
  - .44 caliber, 256 grain bullet used for deer hunting
Air Gun History

- 1803-06
  - Lewis & Clark expedition
    - 37 individuals
    - Used .51 caliber Girandoni Air Gun
      - hunt, defend, & impress Indians
Air Gun History

• Mid 1800s
  ◦ English sportsmen used .45 cal Air Carbines
    • Deer & Boar from horseback

• Late 1800s
  ◦ Firearm cartridge & Smokeless powder made firearms the preferred weapons

• 1896
  ◦ Air Guns entered as Olympic Sport
    • 5 events
Air Gun History

- **Early 1900s**
  - America refined spring-piston design
  - Evolution of pump pneumatics and CO2 appeared as youth-level, low power air guns

- **1970s – Precision Adult Air Guns**
  - Increased Power
  - New Pellet Designs

- **2000s – Precision “One Hole” Air Guns**
  - America, Germany, Russia
Olympic Events

- Men’s & Women’s 10m Air Pistol
  - Offhand, 60 shots – 105 minutes
- Men’s & Women’s 10m Air Rifle
  - Offhand, 60 shots – 105 minutes
- Men’s 10m Air Rifle - Running Target
  - 4x Sight, 60 Shots total, Target from left or right
  - Fast – Target visible 2.5 seconds – 30 shots
  - Slow – Target visible 5.0 seconds – 30 shots
- Biathelon
- Pentathelon
Air Gun Options

• **CO2 or Compressed Air**
  ◦ No need to pump between shots – rapid fire
  ◦ More expensive to operate

• **Spring Piston**
  ◦ High Power – Suitable for Hunting
  ◦ Hard to Cock – Some Recoil
  ◦ Not best for target shooting competition

• **Pneumatic**
  ◦ Must hand pump between shots
  ◦ Generally most accurate for competition
Match Level Air Rifles

- **Daisy 753 Avanti Elite**
  - Entry Match 1 Pump
  - Peep or Red Dot
  - $400 – MV 510

- **Baikal MP 532**
  - Premium Match 1 Pump
  - Peep only
  - $700 – MV 460

- **Feinwerkbau 601**
  - Olympic Class Comp.
  - 1 Pump – Peep Only
Hunting Air Rifles

- **RWS 350 Feuerkraft**
  - 1250 fps - .177 cal
  - Spring Action - Break Barrel
- **Gamo SOCOM Extreme**
  - 1350 fps - .22 cal
  - Spring Action - Break Barrel
- **Benjamin Rogue**
  - 1000 fps - .357 cal
  - Electro-Pneumatic intelligent Control
  - Repeater (6) - PCP

$410
$336
$1300
Match Level Air Pistols

- **Daisy 747**
  - Entry level match
  - $150, Walther barrel

- **Baikal M46**
  - High Performance
  - One Pump Pneumatic
  - $480, “One Hole” Gun

- **Steyr LP10**
  - Premium Competition
  - Compressed Air
  - $2,000, “One Hole” Gun
AMMO

• Vintage Air Guns
  ◦ Lead balls up to 50 cal

• Contemporary
  ◦ Lead balls migrated to “BBs”

• Pellets
  ◦ Basic – “Professional” – Match Grade
  ◦ Increasing mfgr control & precision
  ◦ Fitted to specific barrel
Air Gun Optics

- Air Gun Optics
  - Unique to Air Guns
  - Cannot use Firearm Optic on Air Gun
- Competition Sights
  - No magnification
    - Peep Sights
    - Red Dot Sights
- Cost Effective Quality Options
  - Millett SP1 - $55
  - Ultra Dot AALUD30B - $190
Club Competition

- Every Thursday, 9am & 10am shoots
  - Offhand
- Every Friday, 9am & 10am shoots
  - Bench Rest
- Each event = 10 shots w/in 10 minutes
  - 20 Shots Total plus Handicap Shots
  - $2 / Day (Criticism & Abuse Free)
- Rio Grande Air Gun Range
- Range Officer always present
- Open Shooting every Tuesday, 9-11am
Targets

Standing Rifle Targets

Bench Rest Pistol & Handicap for Rifle

Offhand Pistol Targets

Offhand Pistol Handicap

3/6/2012
Why Buy Adult Air Gun?

- **Target Shooting**
  - Actively Promoted by NRA
  - 1 of Only 3 Growing Shooting Events

- **Pest Control**
  - High Power Air Gun usable where regular firearm unsafe or unlawful

- **Hunting**
  - “Magnum” Hunting Air Rifles lethal 30-50yds
  - Small Game – Squirrel, Rabbit, Birds
Why Buy Adult Air Gun?

- **Shooting Skill Improvement**
  - Learn elements of marksmanship which carry over perfectly to firearms
  - Handiness of Air Guns permits frequent, impromptu, informal, & cheap practice

- **Air Gun Regulations**
  - Not subject to 1968 US GCA & most other gun laws

- **Safety**
  - Teaches safe gun handling & shooting
Air Guns Today

- Rapidly Growing Sport
  - Men, Women, & Children
- Low Entry & Ongoing Cost
  - Competition Pistol – Daisy 747 - $150
  - Match Rifle – Daisy 753 - $260
  - Pellets - 1¢ ea
  - Free 10m Venue in The Villages
- Skills Transfers to Firearms
- Comparatively Safe
  - More fun than people should be allowed to have
Any Questions?

Check our Extensive & Informative Website at: airgunclub.org