

## Patriot Update

February has arrived and we are excited for The Patriot event to begin. As we have stated, this is the largest equestrian event in the United States of America and is the perfect fit for the Mounted Shooters of America and our members to show the whole country what mounted shooting is all about. Total entries for the three days of mounted shooting events are currently 206 and growing each day. Don't miss your chance to take advantage of our generous payouts and a chance to be on national television!

Come and join multi World Champion, 2015 Patriot Overall Champion and MSA All Star, Brian Bausch and mounted shooting Champion and MSA All Star, Jimmy Allen, who will not only be gunning for this year's Overall Champion title, but have also qualified to compete in the Team Roping competition, along with Heath Williams and his two sons, who will be competing for the title of Young Guns Mounted Shooting World Champion. Not to be outdone, Paula Bausch is also coming out of retirement to give Brian some more tough competition for the mounted shooting title. Paula is an MSA World Champion, as well as winner of too many other championships to mention in mounted shooting and is also the 2013 Barrel Racing 1D Average Champion, as well as a top 25 Cowgirl from Project Cowboy, in Ft. Worth, Texas, America's cowboy town and home of The Patriot. We should also mention Jim Best, who is an EXCA World Champion, American Horsemanship Challenge World Champion and American Horsemanship Colt Classic Champion. This is exactly what the Patriot is all about, multitasking, multi-disciplined Cowboys and Cowgirls of all ages!

As a champion Roper, Jimmy Allen has been our greatest advocate with Hall's and we wish to thank him for all he has done to provide us access to such a significant opportunity for our members. Multi talented mounted shooters like those we mentioned and many others we have likely neglected to mention here, are helping to draw attention for mounted shooting within other competitive disciplines, which has been our plan for growth since broadening the reach of Western Shooting Horse and changing its name to Western Horse & Gun. Walmart shoppers across the United States and Canada will be reading about our unique and exciting sport alongside other competitive western disciplines and the more competitors who seek out our magazine, the more new mounted shooters are in our future.

While the Ropers and Barrel Racers must attend qualifying events to participate in The Patriot, as the exclusive representative of mounted shooting, our members have access no other Patriot participant has. We are working closely with the producers of this one of a kind event to help promote and support their efforts through Western Horse & Gun Magazine. If you have not already gotten your copy, be sure to get your hands on the February issue to read all about the Hall family and see how their vision came to life as the final qualifying event for The American, which is the world's richest one day rodeo.

The Hall's are also providing great entertainment during The Patriot, making this event the cowboy family vacation of a lifetime. Friday night, there will be a concert by Brice Long and Saturday night there will be a concert by Daryle Singletary. A cowboy auction will be held, where The American rodeo participants and celebrity Mounted Shooters from our event will be auctioned off to benefit The Wounded Warrior Project. Go to [www.americanpatriotevent.com](http://www.americanpatriotevent.com) for details. The celebrity mounted shooting event will feature champions from competitive western equestrian events and other celebrities and you can bet on your favorites and help a great charity at the same time. Last years winners took home several thousand Dollars. Many unique items will also be auctioned off and there should be something of interest for the whole family. As celebrities are announced, we will post them to Facebook.

We have announced that we are extending our sign up deadline, however, as we have also announced, as guests of The Patriot, we must share stalls with the other disciplines and the Patriot asked that we inform our members to get their stalls by February first. We have just spoken to the Patriot staff and we are pleased to announce that stalls are still available. Therefore, you may still sign up with The Patriot office for stalls if you have not already done so. Call 417-631-6448 to book your stalls or mail in the form from our web site. We recommend you do so as soon as possible, as they are still based on availability and we are not the only discipline needing stalls. The sooner you get your requests in, the sooner the office people can move on to other important tasks.

As we have had discussions with the Hall's about their visionary programs that are helping to promote and grow their sport, we have been very impressed with their efforts. One event we have been following is the Young Guns World Championship. This is a youth championship, which is the Worlds richest youth equine event, including Barrel Racing, Team Roping and Tie-down Roping. It is the only event of its kind for this important age group. It is often said that our youth is the future of our sport. However, no one has taken the lead to prove to our youth that we respect their participation.

Therefore, the MSA has decided to take the lead by bringing our youth to the forefront of The Patriot. We are proud to announce the first annual Young Guns World Championship of Mounted Shooting. This event is a one of a kind opportunity to thank our youth for their support and put our money where our mouth is, when we say that the youth is the future of our sport.

We will run our Young Guns World Championship during the Patriot events already scheduled. MSA members between the ages of 12-21 may enter for the chance to be crowned World Champion and receive a beautiful Gist Silversmith's trophy buckle and a check for \$1,000 in addition to their share of true 60% paybacks from their entry fees, paying back one in three entries. The reserve overall winner will receive a check for \$500 and a Gist Silversmith's trophy buckle included in their winnings. We will handicap the Young Guns based on division, so the youngest need not fear

the more experienced youth, however, there will be no gender split. The entry fees will be \$150 total and you must complete all three days of competition to qualify for payouts. We have also decided to place the Overall and Reserve Young Guns Champions into the top ten pistol shooters qualifiers who will participate in the Patriot Showcase on Saturday night, which as we have announced, will be filmed for a national television show!

This brings our total added money for The Patriot to \$11,500, meaning true payouts will be far more than the guaranteed percentages from entry fees that we always provide. Unlike other associations, we do not pay our expenses first before payouts are determined. The top Young Guns winners will also be recognized in a future issue of Western Horse & Gun Magazine. The Young Guns competitors have the option to participate in the youth competition as well as the main competition with the adults. We will run this group separately during the main match and they will run first, before the main match competitors.

What else could you possibly ask for in a national event for the whole family? Competition, entertainment, TV cameras, charitable gambling and auction, a celebrity shoot and the first ever Young Guns Mounted Shooting Championship, all wrapped up in the most significant equestrian event in the entire country! This is truly the mounted shooting event of a lifetime!

Not enough? How about a high stakes event for those who want to see even bigger payouts? Announcing the 2016 Patriot High Stakes Shootout. This will be a one stage, handicapped challenge open to all levels, ages and genders. Like the Young Guns World Championship, this event will be handicapped based on division, with age taken into account, but no gender splits. Entry fees are \$500 and we are paying back 90% to one in every three entries! This is the best opportunity ever offered in mounted shooting to bring home some fast cash! Time splits and stage number will be announced soon.

The Mounted Shooters of America continues to seek the most opportunities we can establish for our members to be successful. We are dedicated to bringing you exclusive access to the most significant events in the country and to representing our sport as the most fair, transparent and generous association in mounted shooting. We have pulled out all of the stops for this years Patriot and future events will continue to offer the concepts we have experimented with for your benefit, based on level of support. It is time to step up and be part of a new future in mounted shooting. It is time for fresh ideas and increased opportunities for mounted shooters. If you support this event, the future will be full of new possibilities.

Significant venues that mounted shooters have been waiting for are on the horizon for those who show that mounted shooting is worthy of becoming a top tier discipline in the western competitive industry. We can continue to offer unique and exclusive opportunities for our members. Show us that you are ready for these

opportunities and help us to help you become the stars of the mounted shooting world.