

the

RUNDOWN

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**BEHLEN
CLASSIC
RESULTS**

**CMSA GALLOPS
ACROSS EUROPE**

**OKLAHOMA STATE
CHAMPIONSHIP**

**NORA PORTER
AND CMSA**



THE CMSA GALLOPS ACROSS EUROPE



By Alan Eggleston and Torsten Koehler
Photos by: Sonja Lange, Astrid Bittner

Although few in numbers the CMSA's European mounted shooters are extremely high in enthusiasm and passion for our sport, thanks to the help from America's CMSA members like the Townsends and Debbie and Alan Eggleston (far right). Here are the competitors at the El Dorado Shootout, held in Templin, Germany this past June.

With help from the home front, CMSA events are really taking off on the European continent!

UPCOMING SHOOTS IN EUROPE

AUGUST:

Three shoots in Sweden including the Swedish National Championship August 15, 16 at High Chapparel, Sweden.

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER:

German National Championship, El Dorado Western Town, Templin, Germany. Dates not determined yet, for information contact Keith Lanegan at: info@cowboyadventures.de

CMSA history was made in Europe when the Cowboy Adventures Mounted Shooting Club held their second CMSA shoot in Germany at the El Dorado Western Town in Templin, northwest of Berlin. The shoot resulted in the first Class 2 "move-ups" in Germany and their first full class of Men's 2 were achieved. A brief look at 2008 will help us see how this was accomplished in 2009.

In July, 2008 the First Swedish National Championships took place with the help of Larry Townsend and his family. The match included some northern German shooters such as Roger and Nicola Rahn. In central Germany and near the Berlin area, Keith Lanegan of Cowboy Adventures (<http://www.cowboyadventures.de>) was giving mounted shooting demonstrations with his paint horse Rocky's Tru Image, which he imported to Germany from the Double E Ranch in Gila, New Mexico. Additionally in November of 2008, some Germans and Swedes participated at the CMSA World Championship in Amarillo. These competitors were Roger and Nicola Rahn, Bianca Rickmann, Heino Hagge, Patrik Ekstrand and Jessica Blixt. While 2008 was the year that Cowboy Mounted Shooting began, 2009 is the year that Cowboy Mounted Shooting is exploding!

Starting with "High Noon" at Roger's Area, the HQ of the Westernriders Roger's Area (<http://www.rogers-area.de>) was the scene for the first International DWPQ Shootout in Germany on May 9, 10, 2009. The shooters came from Germany, Sweden and the U.S. Roger and Nicola Rahn were gracious hosts to the Wrangler and Class 1 shooters, the only Class 2 shooter being Keith Lanegan (US) living near Berlin. Sweden's Patrik Ekstrand's horse came up lame during the warm-up so Keith Lanegan let him use his horse Rocky. Since there are a limited number of pistols and shooting horses in Europe everyone shares, with Andrea Lensch (Germany) lending a horse to Jorgen Tullson (Sweden). Many spectators were thrilled by the excellent riding and shooting with Overall and Champion Cowboy title earned by Roger Rahn on his horse Rebecca.

On June 27, 28, 2009 we moved to El Dorado, Templin, Germany for a shootout. Saturday morning started with a mounted shooting clinic, sponsored by Sonja Lange and Keith Lanegan, from Cowboy Adventures Mounted Shooting Club (<http://www.cowboyadventures.de>), who hosted the two-day shoot. Clinician Alan Eggleston, SM4, from the Double E Ranch in Gila, New Mexico helped all participants prepare for the event by offering techniques and tips to improve both shooting and horsemanship. There were a number of folks who worked together to make this event possible, like Tommy Schwenn, grounds manager and stunt show coordinator for El Dorado Western Town (<http://www.eldorado-templin.de>), who built a 130x260-foot arena from scratch and lent his personal stunt horse, Rico, for the clinic and shoot. Guenter Mainkin from the beautiful MQ Ranch near Falkenthal (<http://www.westernreiten.tv>) was very kind to lend several of his horses, trailer and other essential equipment for the clinic and shoot. Once again, pistols and horses were shared among the shooters and special thanks goes to Tommy Bloss (Germany), Bianca Rickmann (Germany), Patrik Ekstrand (Sweden), Jessica Blixt (Sweden) and Heino Hagge (Germany). Over the two days the weather was good, the spectators were plentiful and the shooting was exciting, with the competition decided by just tenths of a second.

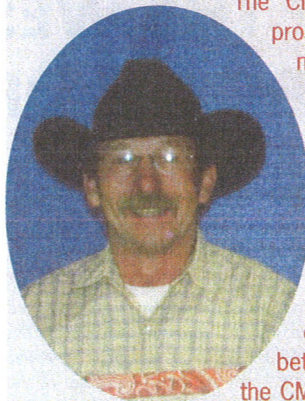
At the awards the excitement was high because for the first time there was a full Mens Class 2 in Europe with just one more Lady needed for a full Ladies Class 2. There are now five Class 2 shooters: Jessica Blixt (Sweden), Nicola Rahn (Germany), Patrik Ekstrand (Sweden), Roger Rahn (Germany), and Keith Lanegan (US). As of this writing, there is another shoot scheduled for July 18 at Westernreiten Roger's Area, Boklund, Germany.

We like to mention the horses because it's important to note there are so few competing shooting horses in Europe with Appaloosa, Quarter Horse, Paint, Paint/Fjord cross and Norwegian Fjord represented. The "Sweet Heart Horse" award goes to "Oskar, the Buckskin Norwegian Fjord, a horse with a heart of gold in putting up with all those crazy shooters. A "thank you" also goes out to Larry Townsend, his family and the Townsend Ranch for their help and support to Cowboy Mounted Shooting in Sweden and to the Swedish shooters.

Double E Ranch sponsored the buckles for Overall Winners of this shoot as a way of thanking all participants for their warm hospitality. Also, Double E Ranch is awarding the Ladies High

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International Liaison Named



The CMSA board of directors are proud to announce the appointment of Larry Townsend, a long-time CMSA member who has vast experience in equine training and event production, as CMSA International Liaison, to assist the CMSA Board of Directors with issues pertaining to growth, education, local and regional development, and facilitate better communication between the CMSA Board of Directors and all Affiliated Organizations outside the continental United States.

Larry was instrumental in making the 2008 International Class at the CMSA Sundowner World Championship a success, by organizing horses and equipment for all of those who traveled from beyond the continental United States. His untiring efforts in Canada and Europe have led to the formation, success and growth of CMSA membership and events in these areas.



Our new European shooters are relishing the Old West and traditional cowboy and cowgirl looks of the CMSA, as shown by German mounted shooter, Sonja Lange, riding Keith Lanegan's horse, Rocky.

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Point and Men's High Point shooters in Europe a stay at the ranch before World, providing them a horse and transportation.

Once again, the cowboy spirit and the CMSA spirit has spread into new territory. Axel Bittner, 47, was born and raised in Communist East Germany. He epitomizes this spirit. When the Berlin Wall came down he took his passion for personal freedom, for enterprise, and for hard work, and became a successful businessman. His wife Astrid, a longtime horsewoman, asked him to learn how to either "dance or

ride horses" with her. Being the smart man that he is, he chose horseback riding. Not knowing what mounted shooting is, he signed up for the Cowboy Adventures Mounted Shooting clinic, rode a strange horse, shot a pistol for the first time and got hooked!

The cowboy spirit, the CMSA spirit, is not about where you live. It is about how you live your life, how you fulfill your personal beliefs, how you carry that cowboy spirit within you, no matter where you are. Axel has done that proving that the CMSA Cowboy Spirit is truly international and very much alive!



The El Dorado Shootout marked the first time that a full Mens Class 2 in Europe, with just one more Lady needed for a full Ladies Class 2, have competed. There are now five Class 2 shooters. In the front row: Patrik Ekstrand (Sweden), Roger Rahn (Germany), and Keith Lanegan (US). In the rear row are: Jessica Blixt (Sweden), Nicola Rahn (Germany).

INTERNATIONAL SHOOTOUT RESULTS FIRST INTERNATIONAL DWPO SHOOTOUT IN GERMANY MAY 9, 10, 2009

Winner Men's class 1: Roger Rahn with Rebecca
2nd place men's class 1: Patrick Ekstrand with Keith Lanegan's Rocky
3rd place men's class 1: Heino Hagge with Sydney
Winner Ladies class 1: Vanessa Schmidt with Wyoming
2nd place ladies class 1: Nicola Rahn with Tassilo
3rd place Ladies class 1: Bianca Rickmann with Oskar
Winner Wrangler Open: Alina Selck with Wyoming
2nd place Wrangler Open: Susanne Scheffer with Susie
3rd place Wrangler Open: Svea Wegener with Oskar

EL DORADO SHOOTOUT, TEMPLIN, GERMANY, JUNE 27, 28, 2009

June 27th

Men's Class 1

First Place: Patrik Ekstrand (moves to M2) (Sweden) on Rocky
Second Place: Roger Rahn (Germany) on Miss Rebecca
Third Place: Heino Hagge (Germany) on Sydney

Ladies Class 1

First Place: Nicola Rahn (Germany) on Tassilo
Second Place: Sonja Lange (Germany) on Rocky
Third Place: Bianca Rickmann (Germany) on Oskar

Men's Class 2

Keith Lanegan (US) on Rocky

Ladies Class 2

Jessica Blixt (Sweden) on Appaloosa Rocky

June 28th

Men's Class 1

First Place: Roger Rahn (Germany) moves to M2
Second Place: Guenter Mainka (Germany) (on Pines Black Major)
Third Place: Heino Hagge (Germany) on Sydney

Ladies Class 1

First Place: Nicola Rahn (Germany) - moves to L2
Second Place: Bianca Rickmann (Germany)
Third Place: Sonja Lange (Germany)

Men's Class 2

First Place: Keith Lanegan (US)
Second Place: Patrik Ekstrand (Sweden)

Ladies Class 2

Jessica Blixt (Sweden)

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