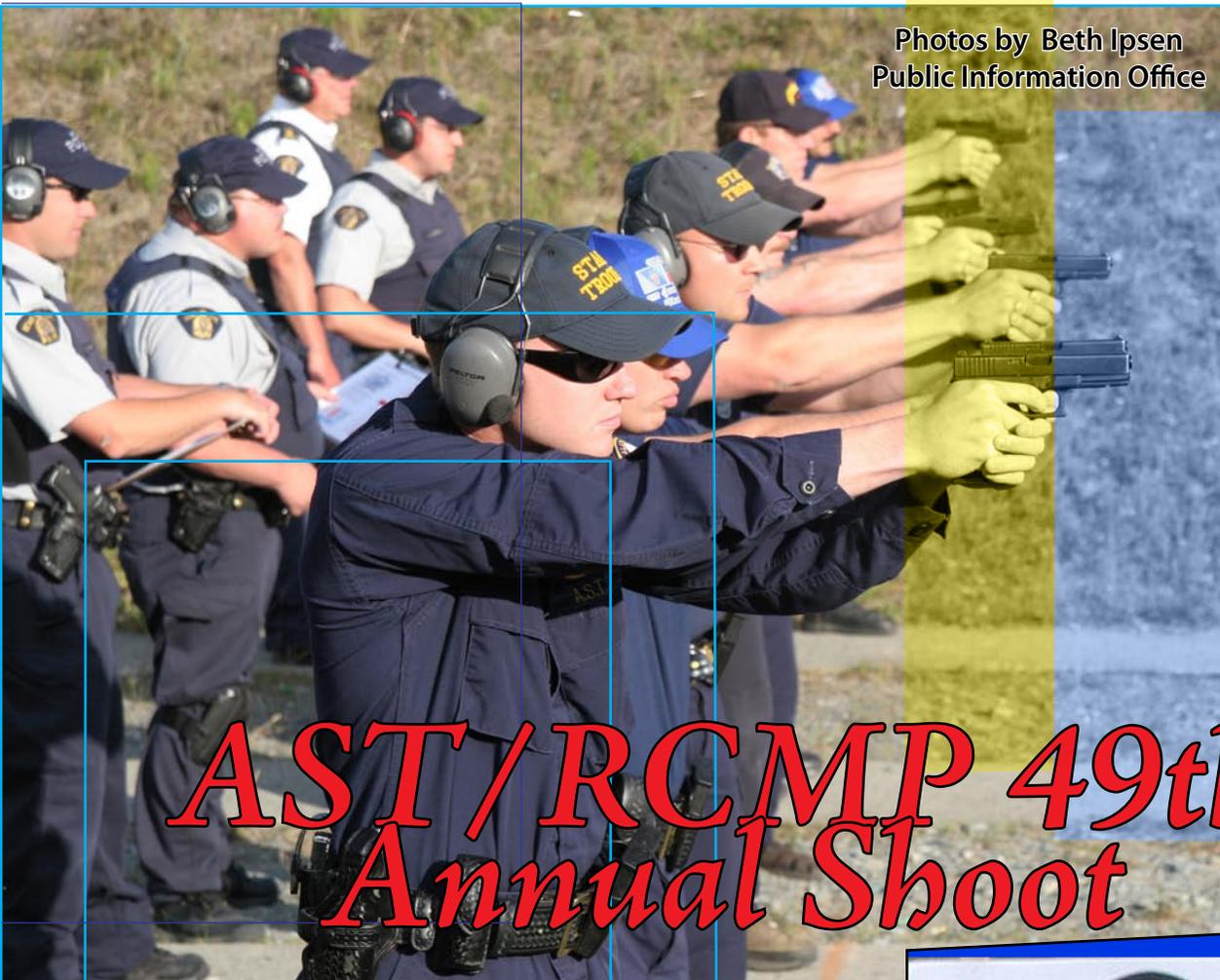


Photos by Beth Ipsen  
Public Information Office



Trooper Shayne Calt of Talkeetna takes aim during The Shoot on Aug. 2, 2009. Next to him are Sgt. Chad Goeden, Alaska Wildlife Trooper Brent Johnson, Sgt. Odean Hall, Sgt. Tim Schoenberg and DPS Commissioner Joe Masters on the far end. Their RCMP shooting partners watch from behind. Not visible, but shooting between Hall and Schoenberg is Trooper Nathan Duce.

# AST/RCMP 49th Annual Shoot

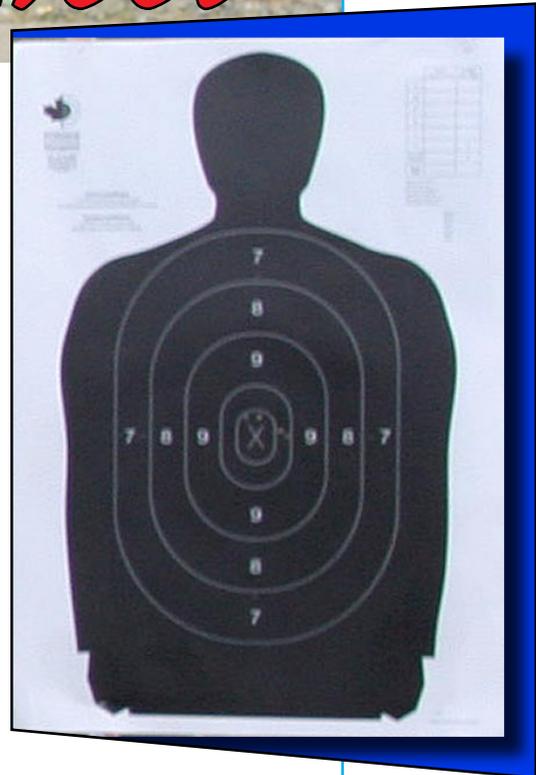
## Alaska State Troopers Take Top Honors in International Shooting Competition with RCMP

For the second year in a row, Alaska State Troopers won the team competition of The Shoot, the annual shooting competition between troopers and Royal Canadian Mounted Police from Yukon, Canada. The Trooper team took numerous other awards in the 49th annual competition between the two agencies on Sunday, Aug. 2, 2009.

Alaska State Troopers



Royal Canadian Mounted Police



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While the event is built up around a shooting contest, the event is more about camaraderie between the Troopers and Mounties, said DPS Commissioner Joe Masters.

“The Shoot symbolizes a lot of different things,” Masters said. “It symbolizes tradition and history. It’s more about friendship and bringing our families together.”

Shortly after Alaska became a state in 1959, Inspector Joe Vachon, commanding officer of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, wanted to find a way for the Mounties and Troopers to get to know each other better on a personal basis as well as strengthen their working partnership. It is the longest standing international shooting competition in the world.

Some of the troopers competing Sunday have had to reach across the border and work with Mounties. The Shoot gives them an opportunity to establish and strengthen those long-standing relationships with RCMP.

This year, The Shoot was held at the Snow Shoe Gun Club shooting range in Kenai, Alaska. There, a team of Sgt. Tim Schoenberg of Fairbanks JS, Commissioner Masters, AWT Brent Johnson, Sgt. Chad Goeden of Fairbanks AWT, Sgt. Odean Hall of Fairbanks, Trooper Nathan Duce of Glennallen and alternates Trooper Steve Lantz of Fairbanks and Trooper Shayne Calt of Talkeetna collectively outgunned their Canadian comrades. This included shooting at targets with the RCMP’s standard issue 9 mm Smith and Wesson. Similarly, the Mounties shot a course using their Trooper partner’s standard issue pistol, the .40-caliber Glock. They took turns running through the AST and RCMP shooting courses with the respective guns. This relates to a case years ago where the Mounties and Troopers were working together to track down a suspect near Hyder, a border community in Southeastern Alaska with a neighboring Canadian community just across the international line. Policy prevented the trooper from using his service weapon in Canada when the trooper crossed the border. The Mounties had to provide him with one of their weapons to use during the apprehension.

The tactical portion of the competition involved firing not only pistols, but a variety of other firearms at sometimes moving targets and then running to the next station. This test of marksmanship allowed Mounties to fire some of the weapons that are illegal in Canada.



Sgt. Tim Schoenberg of Fairbanks checks behind him before holstering his gun while his shooting partner, RCMP Constable Lynden Morrison of Watson Lake, Yukon, eyes the target.



Alaska Department of Public Safety Commissioner Joe Masters (left) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Commanding Officer Chief Superintendent Barry Harvie of Whitehorse, Yukon trade service pistols before shooting a course. Troopers use a .40 Glock and RCMPs use a 9 mm Smith and Wesson. However, half of the target courses are shot while using each other’s service gun.

The competition will return to Whitehorse, Canada next year for the 50th anniversary of The Shoot.



Participants of the Significant Others Shoot Off (SOSO) in Kenai, Alaska on Aug. 2, 2009.



Participants of the 49th Annual Alaska State Troopers and Royal Canadian Mounted Police International Law Enforcement Pistol Competition in Kenai, Alaska on Aug. 2.



Mounties and Troopers tally up scores on targets during the competition before changing out the targets.



On left, Alaska State Trooper Sgt. Odean Hall of Fairbanks and Royal Canadian Mounted Police Constable Ryan Lane Hack of Carcross, Yukon trade service pistols before shooting a course. Troopers use a .40 Glock and RCMPs use a 9 mm Smith and Wesson. However, half of the target courses are shot while using each other's service gun.

### Winners of the 49th Annual AST/RCMP International Pistol Competition

- Trooper Sgt. Tim Schoenberg of Fairbanks Judicial Services won the highest shooter contest by nine points over RCMP Constable Ryan Hack. Alaska Wildlife Trooper Brent Johnson of Tok came in third behind Hack by three points.
- Alaska Department of Public Safety Commissioner Joe Masters won the Commissioner's Trophy over RCMP Commanding Officer Chief Superintendent Barry Harvie.
- AST Sgt. Chad Goeden from Fairbanks won the tactical portion. RCMP Ryan Hack was second. The RCMP's fe-

- males took the Significant Other Shoot Off (SOSO) team competition while Schoenberg's significant other, Katherine Hook of North Pole, was overall women's best.
- Highest AST Shooter for AST Course of Fire was AWT Brent Johnson.
- Highest AST Shooter for RCMP Course of Fire was Sgt. Tim Schoenberg.
- Highest RCMP on AST Course of Fire was Cst. Ryan Hack.
- Highest RCMP on RCMP Course of Fire was Cst. Ryan Lane Hack.