



CMP State Directors

Bill Barker

Hometown: Albuquerque, NM

I was born in Bellingham, WA, and spent several years traveling since my father was a Marine. I returned to Bellingham and attended high school and college there before I too enlisted in the Marines. In boot camp, I proved to be an above average shooter and participated in some recreational and competitive activities as well as professional training afterward. After receiving a commission, I was high shooter in my Basic School Course of over 220 Lieutenants but competed on few occasions since Marine officers rarely are permitted to shoot competitively.

Upon retirement in 1990, I became a Junior ROTC instructor in Albuquerque, NM, and continued in that capacity for over 20 years. During this time, it became apparent that what I had learned about marksmanship in the Marines had little relevance to junior airgun competitions. As more information was acquired and applied, my teams became more competitive and several of my shooters were invited to national competitions. I was selected to be on the NRA's National Coach Development Staff (NCDS) and have enjoyed working with rifle coaches of all levels of experience in my capacity as a coach trainer. I serve on two National Airgun Councils and am the New Mexico State Director for the Civilian Marksmanship Program (CMP), the New Mexico Junior Shooting Sports Chairman for the American Legion, and Match Director for major competitions within the state.

During my 13 years at La Cueva HS in Albuquerque, NM, our teams became competitive on the national level, and worked with other programs in New Mexico to improve them as well (you don't get better until someone else does). A brief summary of La Cueva's accomplishments during my tenure is:

- More shooters to the American Legion National Championship than any other club
- 13 consecutive New Mexico State Sporter Championships
- 12 of 13 New Mexico State Precision Championships
- All eight Western Region Cup Precision Championships

- 7 of 8 Western Region Cup Sporter Championships
- Two American Legion National Championships (Sporter and Precision)
- Two JROTC National Championships (Sporter, Precision)
- Ten time Marine Corps Sporter Champions
- Two time Marine Corps Precision Champions

Additionally, I have had over 60 cadets attend service academies and none has ever quit or flunked out - 10 of those were appointed primarily for their rifle marksmanship abilities.

In an effort to “give back” to the sport, shooters under my tutelage have conducted several camps and clinics for New Mexico, Texas, and Arizona shooters each year. These total at least 200 attendees annually. Teaching shooters and coaches of varying abilities/experiences is a welcome challenge and I learn something every time the opportunity is presented.

My current position is with the Albuquerque Public school district and, with no small effort, all 13 high schools in Albuquerque have rifle ranges. In addition to working with New Mexico shooters, I teach clinics and coach schools from Washington State to Rhode Island and Virginia to California – even Texas!

I am an ASEP certified NRA Level 3 coach, JMIC Master Instructor, and on the National Coach Development Staff.