

The Bandera PROPHET

November 1, 2021

One-day shooting competitions held for active-duty military and disabled veterans

Honored American Veterans Afield (HAVA) hosted three, one-day shooting competition events at the Bandera Gun Club in Bandera Oct. 21 - 23. Each day of shooting featured 45 different active-duty military members and disabled veterans, for a total of nearly 125 participants, seven of whom were hosted by The Independence Fund.

“I really appreciate everything HAVA and The Independence Fund has done for me and this crew this weekend and overall,” Army Veteran Curt Oswalt said. “I just wanted to say thank you for all of this from this weekend. I had a great time with everyone, even before winning the SIG SAUER!”

The goal of each day was to give veterans and their guests a chance to show their skills at five different shooting stages, including steel challenge, cowboy action, and sporting clays, as well as enjoy a patriotic day of appreciation for the military.

“HAVA is honored to host these fine warriors in Bandera for the weekend. Great food, music and the smell of gun powder made for a special time for all attending,” Chris Fleming, event manager and firearms instructor for HAVA, said. “With the help of the finest companies in the shooting and outdoor industry, we were able to bring in more than 200 veteran guests, friends, family members and volunteer staff to host an awesome range day to celebrate these men and women.”

The Independence Fund, a national non-profit for catastrophically wounded veterans, has partnered with HAVA for other veteran shooting events and competitions, and was invited for a second year in a row to bring seven veterans from throughout Texas for this year’s shooting competition.

“I’m glad that we have been able to partner with HAVA and their team a second year in a row for this event,” Nick Armendariz, mobility program manager for The Independence Fund, said. “Spending a day on the range seems to bring about a sense of camaraderie and unity between these veterans which can sometimes be lost after transitioning out of the military.”

Major sponsors for this event included SIG SAUER, Black Rifle Coffee and Sure Fire. For more information on HAVA or The Independence Fund, visit their websites at www.honoredveterans.org and www.independencefund.org